

THE JOURNAL

Friday, November 4, 2005

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Sports El Cerrito wide receiver stays focused after father's death [C1]

Arts & Leisure Day of the Dead art is a powerful reminder [C10]

Study required to proceed with condo plan

Residents say they fear proposed project at El Cerrito Plaza would increase traffic, pollution

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER
The El Cerrito Planning Commission will require a traffic study of Cerrito Plaza as part of its approval of a controversial plan

to build a 128-unit condominium project on the southeastern corner of El Cerrito Plaza.

Dubbed Creekside at El Cerrito Plaza, the project will also restore a 60-foot-wide by 180-foot-long portion of Cerrito Creek and connect an existing creek-side path that runs along the south end of the plaza to the Ohlone Greenway BART path.

Residents have until Nov. 17 to appeal the planning commission's

decision to the City Council. An appeal letter needs to be filed with the city clerk. The cost is \$209.

At Wednesday night's planning commission meeting, El Cerrito and Albany residents largely criticized the four- and five-story project for being out of scale with the rest of the shopping center and the adjacent Albany neighborhood.

There were fears that it would increase pollution in the area and

that it would exacerbate traffic problems, creating unsafe conditions for pedestrians, including children attending nearby Albany Middle School.

Ann Chaney, Albany's community development director, said a study looking at the impacts of closing off the four streets closest to the project — leading from Albany to the shopping center — will be available by the end of the year.

"Any increase in traffic is a matter of concern to us," said Albany School Board Vice President Charlie Blanchard.

The final environmental impact report says the development will generate one additional car trip per minute at the site itself and less than one trip per minute at the intersections of Evelyn and Brighton avenues and at Talbot and Brighton avenues.

"I'm not really seeing that hav-

ing to drive through the plaza to get to the site is the big obstacle people think it is," planning commissioner Kathleen McKinley said.

However, planning commission chair Doug Mansel said he was dismayed that Regency Centers, the main owner of the plaza, had not made improvements to the widely criticized traffic circulation at the plaza.

See CONDO, Page A10

TRICK-OR-TREATERS ON THE TRAIL



JOANNA JHANDASTAFF

WYNGOERS ARRIVE EARLY and dressed for the occasion for the El Cerrito Community Center's Halloween celebration on Monday.

Residents vow fight on mixed-use project

■ Safeway offers preliminary views of a combined retail/housing project proposed for Solano Avenue

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A plan to build 40 to 60 condominiums and a new grocery store at the site of a Safeway on Solano Avenue drew strong opposition from residents at a recent neighborhood meeting.

Residents said they worried about increased traffic and lowered property values in the already-busy commercial district at Curtis and Neilson streets, catty-corner from the Berkeley border.

"Any added intensification is going to be wildly unpopular," said Curtis Street resident Josh Fox. "And we're going to fight this every step of the way."

According to diagrams shown at Tuesday's meeting, the project would reach three stories with parking underground and housing on top of the store. The current surface parking lot would be replaced with a new Safeway store fronting Solano Avenue underneath two stories of housing.

Seattle-based developer Security Properties Inc. is partner-

ing with Safeway on the project. Todd Paradis, the Northern California real estate manager for Safeway, stressed that they're exploring the possibility of the development but have not submitted an application to the city.

"We were approached by a developer who has a history of doing this and seems to know what they're doing," Paradis said. "And we want to explore this possibility."

The neighborhood meeting, held at the Solano Wine Cellar on Solano Avenue near Safeway, drew about 30 residents, some of whom sipped red wine and

snacked on hors d'oeuvres. Nearly all opposed the housing, and several had concerns about the size of the project, calling it a "behemoth." They said Safeway should instead improve the store to compete with more upscale grocery stores like nearby Andronico's Market.

Resident Chris Bailey said she felt Albany was "under siege" by development. She cited two housing developments on San Pablo and a proposal to build a shopping and housing development on the parking lots at Golden Gate Fields.

Others were concerned about increasing the number of students in the already-crowded Albany school district.

See SAFEWAY, Page A10

Measure A supporters energize

They also speak out against the governor's Propositions 74 through 77

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — About 50 people showed out for a recent rally in favor of the Measure A parcel tax and against Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's initiatives, Propositions 74 through 77.

"They hey, ho ho, Schwarzenegger has got to go!," the crowd chanted. Later, "Hey hey, we're here today, let's get out for Measure A!"

Residents, school district officials and businesses have also given their support in monetary ways — the campaign raised an

additional \$2,380 between Sept. 25 and Oct. 22.

Following the rally on Oct. 27 at Albany High School, volunteers again canvassed the neighborhoods encouraging people to vote on Tuesday.

The real danger, said Assemblywoman Loni Hancock, was if people stayed home on election day. If they did that, she said, they would essentially be voting for the governor's initiatives.

Hancock also congratulated the district for Measure A, which she said is essential to keeping Albany schools at their best. She said the state doesn't fund California schools well enough.

If approved by a two-thirds majority, Measure A would raise \$2 million annually for the district for seven years and go toward a number of programs, as well as teachers' salaries.

Mayor Robert Good told the crowd that the City Council unanimously supports the measure. The council put off its own tax until next June to allow the school

See MEASURE A, Page A10

City hopes new stores will generate foot traffic

■ New businesses such as Peet's and cafes may help revitalize area around Cerrito Theater

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

Traditionally open for breakfast and lunch, Raphael's Shutter Cafe on San Pablo Avenue near Central Avenue will this weekend begin operating Friday and Saturday nights in anticipation of the opening of the Cerrito Theater.

Owner Otis Timmons is counting on greater foot traffic once the renovated theater opens, which is scheduled to happen in about 10 months. "I envision a much more concentrated area as far as pedestrian traffic is concerned, and I'm looking forward to it," said Timmons, a Richmond Annex resident who has run his business for 30 years in El Cerrito.



JOANNA JHANDASTAFF

RAPHAEL'S SHUTTER CAFE owner Otis Timmons has been in business in El Cerrito for 28 years. Timmons says he's excited about the Cerrito Theater reopening next to his cafe.

Once it's renovated, the theater will be one of several new businesses within three blocks of Fairmount and San Pablo avenues, including Peet's Coffee

and Tea, that will give people a new reason to shop and dine in the area.

See RENOVATION, Page A9

IF YOU GO

■ **WHAT:** Groundbreaking for renovations of The Cerrito Theater. Redevelopment agency board members will be in attendance, as will the project architects, the theater operator and more. There will be a brief program and light refreshments.

■ **WHEN:** Nov. 4 at 4:30 p.m.

■ **WHERE:** The Cerrito Theater, 10070 San Pablo Avenue at Central

■ **INFORMATION:** 510-235-2524

■ **WHAT:** Grand opening party for Peet's Coffee and Tea with free coffee, coffee tasting and prizes.

■ **WHEN:** Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ **WHERE:** 9895 San Pablo Ave. at Carlson

■ **INFORMATION:** 510-225-2080

INSIDE

At the Library

■ Julie Winkelstein discusses the types of classes that make the best librarians. Page A5



Martin Snapp

■ The drive to restore a Berkeley church results in outpouring of generosity. Page A3

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NEWS BRIEFS

El Cerrito

Seats open on city boards, commissions

Following recent repaving work, the El Cerrito Police department will not cite motorists who park outside of the lines of the parking spaces on San Pablo Avenue.

The reason: The spaces are too small. The length is 18 feet when the standard is between 22 and 24 feet.

El Cerrito Public Works Director Jerry Bradshaw blamed Caltrans — which recently repaved El Cerrito's portion of San Pablo Avenue — for the insufficient parking stall length.

The small parking spaces make it difficult for large vehicles to parallel park, said Bradshaw, who is pressing Caltrans to correct the error.

"We're going to go out there," said Caltrans spokeswoman Lauren Wonder, "and temporarily obliterate the marks whether that's with tar or paint, and come back out in January and discuss whether we put measured parking spaces in or whether we leave it blank." 0890 San Pablo Ave. For more information, call 510-215-4305.

Parking spaces on San Pablo too small

Following recent repaving work, the El Cerrito Police Department has agreed not to cite motorists who park outside of the lines of the parking spaces on San Pablo Avenue.

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The small parking spaces make it difficult for large vehicles to parallel park, said Bradshaw, who is pressing Caltrans to correct the error.

The other problems that have emerged following the repaving include: omitting the right turn lane next to Target and omitting a double center line on Cutting Boulevard near Peerless Avenue.

Caltrans completed the repaving in September. The city is waiting for additional signal work and then the removal of some medians and the completion of striping.

Caltrans did not return calls for comment.

Kensington

Park renovation close to completion

An effort to renovate an area at Kensington Park south of the tennis courts is moving forward and may be completed this fall.

The renovations include a grassy tree-lined area with a concrete path leading to the north side of the tennis courts; a new basketball court; and new picnic tables and benches.

"They are moving right along on getting this done," said Ciara Wood, a board member of the Kensington police protection and community services district, which is spearheading the effort.

Most of the \$294,000 project is being paid for with state bond money. A steering committee is being formed to raise an additional \$75,000 to \$100,000 to install bathrooms at the site, Wood said.

This is the third phase of the Kensington park project. It follows the creation of a playing field and walking path in 1999 and a new play structure in 2002, Wood said.

Meeting scheduled on library project

The next meeting of the Kensington Library improvement project will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday. The Kensington group is looking at improving the building, and may apply for state bond money that may become available following a state bond election next June. If approved, the money would require a local match.

Meanwhile, the library has started a new book club that meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 28. The group will discuss "Everything is Illuminated" by Jonathan Safran Foer. For more information, call 510-524-3043.

Contra Costa County

Women's Hall of Fame nominations sought

The Contra Costa Commission for Women is accepting nominations for candidates in the county's Women's Hall of Fame. The winners will be honored at the eighth annual Women's Hall of Fame Awards dinner in Concord on March 16.

The categories are: Women demonstrating leadership, creating community, working for justice, preserving the environment, improving health care, contributing to the arts, and innovating in science and technology.

To receive a nomination packet, call Linda Douglas at 925-757-9630 or e-mail lldhd@sbcglobal.net.

— Alan Lopez

EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

Sunday, Oct. 23

■ **CELEBRITY STOLEN** — A 1988 Chevrolet Celebrity was taken from the 600 block of Everett Street sometime between 5 p.m. Oct. 23 and 11:40 a.m. the next day.

Monday, Oct. 24

■ **ROBBERY** — At 6 a.m. a woman's tote bag was taken from her while she walked at South 55th and School streets. A man pulled the bag off her shoulder and ran away.

■ **STEREO STOLEN** — A car stereo was taken from the 900 block of Liberty Street sometime between 7 p.m. Oct. 24 and 7:30 a.m. the next day.

Tuesday, Oct. 25

■ **AUTO BURGLARY** — Clothing, a backpack and CDs were taken from a 1997 Toyota Camry on the 1300 block of Liberty Street sometime between 2:30 and 8:25 a.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 26

■ **PEPPER SPRAY** — An 83-year-old man said two men sprayed him in the face with pepper spray on the 100 block of Ashbury Avenue. They ran away after taking his car and house keys.

■ **CIVIC STOLEN** — A 1995 Honda Civic was taken from the 1700 block of Arlington Boulevard sometime between 9 and 10:30 p.m.

tween 9 and 10:30 p.m.

■ **CIVIC STOLEN** — A 1995 Honda Civic was taken from the 5300 block of School Street sometime between 10 p.m. Oct. 26 and 8:15 a.m. the next day.

Thursday, Oct. 27

■ **ESCORT STOLEN** — A 1995 Ford Escort was taken from the 2500 block of Nason Avenue sometime between 8:45 and 9:45 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 29

■ **AUTO BURGLARY** — Money and a gym bag was taken from a vehicle on the 2300 block of Gloria Street

sometime between midnight and 7 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 30

■ **BIKE STOLEN** — A \$1,500 mountain bike left unlocked at El Cerrito Plaza was taken sometime between 6 and 6:15 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 31

■ **LAPTOP STOLEN** — A laptop computer was taken from a 1999 Toyota Camry on the 1500 block of Madera Drive sometime between 1:30 and 2 p.m. A passenger window was smashed as well.

— Alan Lopez

Necessity of Measure J questioned

By Shirley Dang
STAFF WRITER

As the November special election date creeps closer, voters within West Contra Costa school district boundaries face a decision on whether to grant \$400 million more for campus reconstruction.

Measure J would renovate three high schools and 13 elementary schools if 55 percent of voters approve Nov. 8. If it passes, the bond would become the fourth capital projects bond passed in West Contra Costa since 1998, bringing the total to \$890 million.

By the end of this year, the district — home to one of the most extensive school construction projects in the state — will have finished 17 of 22 schools slated for overhaul already.

Supporters say the bond is critical to repairing the rest of the district's old and decrepit campuses, many of which were built 50 years ago.

"We still have students going to school in substandard facilities that impede their ability to learn," said school board President Glen Price.

Opponents point to construction delays, cost overruns and dwindling enrollment as reasons to vote down Measure J. Some say three bonds is enough.

"They've just gone to the well too many times, and this time on the thinnest of justifications," said Donald Damon, former mayor of El Cerrito.

Voters passed a \$40 million bond in 1998 that built Lovonya DeJean Middle School in Richmond.

MEASURE J
AT A GLANCE

West Contra Costa school district school construction bond

AMOUNT: \$400 million

WHAT IT'S FOR: Renovating De Anza, Kennedy and Pinole Valley high schools, Castro, Coronado, Dover, Fairmont, Ford, Grant, Highland, King, Lake, Nystrom, Ohlone, Valley View and Wilson elementary schools; purchasing land for new schools; finishing projects not completed under prior bonds

VOTES TO PASS: 55 percent

AVERAGE TAX RATE INCREASE: \$55.50 per \$100,000 assessed property value

Two years later, the district asked for \$150 million. The money went toward renovating 17 elementary schools. Most have reopened.

In 2002, voters approved \$300 million more for school construction. The repair list now includes the \$96 million El Cerrito High School demolition and reconstruction and renovations of Helms, Pinole and Portola middle schools and Downer Elementary School.

These projects represent half the district's plan to renovate nearly all its 50-some older campuses, which would cost nearly \$1.5 billion. To finish the task, West Contra Costa would likely need to pass an additional bond.

Under Measure J, property owners would pay an average tax rate increase of \$55.50 per \$100,000 of assessed property value over the life of the 30-

year bonds, according to the county's tax rate statement.

Christina Slamon, a campaign organizer for Measure J, said the money proved worth it at her daughter's campus, Madera Elementary School in El Cerrito.

Before the renovation, fourth- and fifth-grade students attended class in portables and students played on worn blacktop.

With renovations came a wing that houses permanent classrooms and a high-tech center, a patch of lawn and a playground awning where the school can hold its winter sing-along.

Although the new measure won't spiff up Madera any further, Slamon said she wants other students to enjoy what her daughter has: a new campus.

"I really want all the kids in our district to go to quality schools," Slamon said.

Robert Studdiford, a member of the bond oversight committee, said he eagerly awaits repairs at Castro Elementary School where his children attend.

A fire gutted the library in spring. The multipurpose room roof leaks.

"One of the kindergartens is splitting in half," Studdiford said. "The building is separating."

Critics say they don't question the need, but the district's efficiency and oversight.

At the first nine schools, cost overruns from change orders — typically 7 or 8 percent of a renovation contract amount — has hit 19 percent, according to

an Oct. 26 update.

Harding Elementary is still under construction, more than a year late. It recently complained that trucks and backhoes at the campus without proper permits.

"There's a management problem there," said Evans-Young, a Hercules councilman.

Damon said the district's declining enrollment questions the need for new campuses. The district estimates this year, according to the latest district estimate, about 3,000 less than in 2003. The district closed El Cerrito Elementary School last year because of falling enrollment to save money.

"How do you justify hundreds of millions of dollars when you're closing schools?" Damon asked.

Both men say they question the district's fiscal ability. An audit due in December 2004 is 10 months late. The head of district finances, Ted Hood, said the report would be finished next week.

Damon said that he is of the district repeatedly asking voters for more money when the district promises the first few bonds would be enough to repair all the campuses.

"It seems like every year we're asked to contribute with 'x' million dollars," said.

Reach Shirley Dang at 262-2798 or sdang@cctimes.com.

ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

Monday, Oct. 24

■ **LOCKER BREAK-INS** — At about 6 p.m., officers responded to St. Mary's High School on reports of juveniles breaking into lockers. Officers located and arrested two Berkeley boys, ages 12 and 14, for burglary and resisting an officer. The younger boy was cited and released to his parent. The older boy was additionally charged with possession of stolen property and transported to Juvenile Hall.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the day, someone broke into a burgundy-colored 1990 Honda Accord parked at 555 Pierce St. and stole the car. There were no witnesses.

Tuesday, Oct. 25

■ **VANDALISM** — The manager of an Albany auto dealership reported that someone had vandalized several vehicles that were parked on a lot on the 500 block of Cleveland Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **DOUBLE AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a silver 2000 Honda and a gold Volvo SW parked on the 1000 block of Jackson Street.

Wednesday, Oct. 27

■ **TOYOTA STOLEN** — During the night someone stole a white 1991 Toyota Camry parked in a driveway on the 500 block of Cornell Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **HONDA RECOVERED** — Officers located a silver Honda Accord on the 1200 block of Brighton that had been reported as stolen from Berkeley. They did not have anyone in custody, and the owner was notified.

■ **BICYCLE STOLEN** — Someone stole a bicycle parked in front of a bank on the 1400 block of Solano Avenue.

Thursday, Oct. 28

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — At about 1 a.m. officers stopped a blue 2002 Chevrolet on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 21-year-old San Ramon man, for an outstanding Oakland warrant in the amount of \$1,500 for DUI and driving with a suspended license.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night, someone smashed the windows of a green Lexus parked on the 600 block of Curtis Avenue. There were no witnesses.

Friday, Oct. 29

■ **FIRE DAMAGE** — The principal at Marin School on the 1000 block of Santa Fe Avenue reported that someone had burned a poster hanging in the courtyard, causing damage to the wall and a bench. There were no witnesses.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — At about noon, officers responded to Ocean View School on the 1000 block of Jackson Street on reports of two people who were in a classroom. They were defensive, explaining they were checking out the school program, and departed. Officers located the white Acura they departed in near San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street. They arrested a 38-year-old woman for trespassing and disorderly conduct.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — A resident on the 800 block of Jackson Street reported that during the night someone stole her wallet and other items from her car.

Saturday, Oct. 29

■ **NO BAIL WARRANT** — At about 1 a.m., officers stopped a red 1985 GMC near San Pablo Avenue and Gilman Street for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a San Rafael man, for a no-bail warrant out of Albany.

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — A Southgate man reported that his white Honda Accord was stolen while parked on the 1100 block of Eastshore. There were no witnesses.

■ **DUI** — At about 11 p.m., officers arrested a 23-year-old Richmond man driving a white Lincoln on west-bound Interstate-80 for DUI.

Sunday, Oct. 30

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — About 1 a.m. officers stopped an Acura Integra near San Pablo and Monroe avenues for a vehicle violation. They arrested the driver, a 23-year-old Berkeley man, for outstanding Watsonville warrants driving with a suspended license and failure to appear.

■ **TOYOTA STOLEN** — During the night, someone stole a silver Toyota Camry parked on the 1100 block of Hillside Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **ONE HONDA STOLEN, ANOTHER RECOVERED** — During the night, someone stole a 1990 Honda Accord that was parked on the 1000 block of Stannage Avenue. During the investigation, officers located black 1991 Honda a couple blocks away that had been stolen from Berkeley. The owner was notified.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a silver Honda Accord parked on the 1100 block of Hillside Avenue.

Weekly Summary

During the week of Oct. 24, officers towed four vehicles, responded to five alarms, attended to eight injured animals, assisted two people who were locked out of their cars, responded to one report of a lost dog. In the domestic arena, officers responded to 14 civil disturbances, 165 civil assists. Officers stopped vehicles or persons, issuing 12 citations and 62 warnings. Albany firefighters/paramedics responded to fire calls and five medical emergencies.

— Kristin

THE JOURNAL

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Craig Lazzaretto, Hills editor

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EDITORIAL

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIALS

Yes on Measure J

IT IS NO SECRET that many of the schools in the West Contra Costa Unified School District are in sad shape. Many have deteriorated beyond simple repair. They did not get that way overnight or by happenstance.

The good news is that voters have been generous, and some of the schools have been repaired or rebuilt. Many of the new or redone schools are great examples of the value a new school can add to a community.

But the job is not finished, and, as hard as it may be to accept, more money is needed. That is why the Journal is supporting Measure J on the Nov. 8 ballot.

We know this school district has a checkered financial past. We also know that some of its financial problems are of its own making. We also remember that the voters have approved three bond measures totaling \$490 million since 1998 for reconstruction and refurbishment of the schools.

We endorsed those measures and hoped at the time that they would generate enough money to cover the costs of the job. But that was not the case. This school district has more than 50 campuses, and they were all in dire need of help.

Not to put too fine a point on it, more money is needed to do the job. Passing Measure J would raise about \$400 million to renovate three high schools, 13 elementary schools, finish construction started with prior bonds, and purchase property for new schools.

If Measure J gets 55 percent of the vote, it will require taxpayers to pay an additional \$31.10 per \$100,000 of a home's assessed valuation. We know that isn't cheap, but we also know the need is great and the time is now.

We urge a yes vote Tuesday on Measure J.

Yes on Measure A

IT IS NOT SURPRISING that no organized opposition has emerged to Measure A, which would raise \$2 million annually for the Albany school district with a new tax on residential and commercial property owners. Albany's schools have been a source of pride for the city in recent years, and no doubt a source of the city's skyrocketing housing prices, so it makes sense that residents would want to build on that success.

The measure would tax property owners annually \$250 per residential unit and 5 cents per square foot for non-residential properties, or \$250, whichever is higher, for seven years. The money would go toward teachers' salaries and health and retirement benefits, campus supervision, small class sizes, programs for students learning English, and extracurricular activities.

For most property owners, the tax will likely pay for itself and then some as the continued excellence of Albany's schools continues to attract homeowners to the city and drive up home values. By boosting salaries, it will make Albany a more attractive place to teach and result in more talented educators coming to the city. By keeping class sizes small, it will keep test scores high and academic achievement strong among the district's students. By funding programs for students learning English, it will ensure that the district meets the needs to all its students, regardless of their background.

In short, Measure A will make a strong school district even stronger, benefiting the city and its residents for years to come. With so many school districts in the state struggling to provide a quality education to their students, it is vital that Albany's residents continue to support and improve their fine schools.

We urge a yes vote Tuesday on Measure A.

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530. 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

East Bay Regional Parks

Jean Siri: Ward 1 (Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Kensington, part of Pinole, and San Pablo). E-mail: jsiri@ebparks.org

AC Transit

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

Stege Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.stegesd.dst.ca.us.

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Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District

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Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

School boards

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Emergency numbers

El Cerrito or Kensington fire, police or medical: 911.

Non-emergency

El Cerrito and Kensington Fire — 510-215-4450.

El Cerrito Police — 510-237-3233.

Kensington Police — 510-233-1214;

business line 510-526-4141.

Sewer problems: Stege Sanitary Service. 510-524-4667.

Water services: East Bay Municipal Utility District. 510-287-1390, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays, or 510-835-3000 after 4:30 p.m.

Libraries

El Cerrito — 6510 Stockton Ave. Open noon-8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays,

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Satur-

days. Closed Wednesdays and Sundays. 510-526-7512.

Kensington — 61 Arlington Ave. Open noon-8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays,

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Wednesdays and Sun-

days. 510-524-3043.

Parks and recreation

El Cerrito Recreation Programs — Community Center, 7007 Moers Lane. Meeting rooms, classes, pool. 510-215-4370.

Canyon Trail Art Center — 6757 Gatto St., El Cerrito. Instruction for children and adults. 510-215-4370 or 510-215-4394.

Kensington Recreation — Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. 510-525-0292.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

WAS IT WORTH IT?



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This election is wasteful

Even if there were no other reason to defeat propositions 73 to 78, the fact that they are the reason for this special election should suffice.

As concerned citizens and taxpayers, we must ask ourselves what possible justification there can be for holding a special election, at an estimated cost of \$70 million-\$90 million, when the 2006 primary will be held in seven months, on June 6. Certainly, that money could have been better spent in any number of ways.

Since I see no possible justification, I can only assume that a special election was called in the hope that these propositions, which might not pass in a general election with higher voter turnout, will pass in an off-year election because people who oppose them will not be interested enough to vote against them.

I urge you to vote no on propositions 73 to 78; tell the governor that this is not the way we want our taxpayer dollars to be spent.

Lillian Mayers
Albany

Squandered money

If throwing money at problems solved problems, Iraq would be a paradise and West Contra Costa schools would be an educational heaven. The reality is that no amount of wasted money will solve either of these problems.

A review of your property tax bill will highlight the folly of throwing more money at the school district. When my property tax bill arrived recently, I noted the following charges: West Contra Costa Unified School District Parcel Tax \$179.34; West Contra Costa Unified School District Assessment \$72; West Contra Costa Unified Bond 1998 \$53.63; West Contra Costa Unified Bond 2000 \$203.79; West Contra Costa Unified School District 2002 Bond \$228.05. The total of supplemental school taxes for one house for one year, \$736.81.

Let's suppose you believe the bill for incompetence and mismanagement at the West Contra Costa school district is the sole responsibility of property owners, think again. Since I own rental property, with each of the prior increases in property taxes, I raised the rents my tenants paid. Should Measure J pass, rents will increase \$45 per month per tenant.

Like myself, businesses that pay higher taxes or higher rent simply raise prices. Therefore, Measure J will increase rents and prices in West County. Those higher costs will be paid by tenants and customers.

Sadly, the tax money from Measure J will be squandered as it has in the past. Vote no on Measure J unless you like higher rents, higher prices and money wasted.

Paul Taybi
El Cerrito

School board not trustworthy

I will vote no on Measure J because I do not trust the West Contra Costa school board to reasonably estimate school reconstruction costs.

I don't observe the school district carrying out major capital projects in a safe, cost-efficient, timely way. I don't believe our existing bond oversight committees are anything more than a fig leaf covering egregious mishandling of public

funds. And finally, I don't believe pumping extraordinary amounts of money into the physical plant of our public schools will have any effect on the abysmal academic performance of the students.

If Lovonya DeJean Middle School, Helms Middle School or El Cerrito High are any guide, the West County taxpayer must be prepared for future school reconstruction efforts to exceed official projected costs by as much as five times! The current projection is \$1.3 billion.

Now, instead of presenting school reconstruction plans with an honest justification for their need, scope and expense, our lame-duck school board president shills for Measure J by mouthing a silly slogan to tug at our heartstrings: "Give the kids schools they deserve."

Well, I say we should give our kids the schools they need — and that the already overburdened taxpayers can afford.

Greg Engargiola
El Cerrito

No to school bond Measure J

While it's important to fund our children's education, Measure J is part of what has become an annual event: promising a new tax will cure all of our schools' problems, costing taxpayers more money but not fixing the problems.

The information provided in the campaign for Measure J is incomplete and deceptive; it promises the same fixes but conveniently fails mentioning promises made in prior years and the fact that we are still paying for them. These bonds continue for as much as 30 years in some cases!

A look at your property tax bill will show how many of the additional taxes are school funding measures (at least five).

Is none of the base property tax going to schools anymore? Proponents of Measure J should put their energy into assuring a fair share of the base property tax is spent on schools, instead of asking taxpayers to hand over more money every year.

In 2004, we fed-up voters rejected a school bond measure. Rather than accept the voters' will, the schools identified two hot button issues (sports and libraries) and held them hostage until a special election added a new tax. Now it's a new year with a new request for money.

Those it hurts the most are new and future home buyers who, after struggling to pay the outrageous prices of "starter homes," are then assessed these new fees based on those values. Measure J would add an additional 5.55 percent tax for another 30 years. And I'm sure there will be another measure for more money next year.

WRITE TO THE JOURNAL

Letters to the editor and guest commentaries reflect the opinion of the writer and must include the author's first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification.

Letters are subject to editing for brevity, grammar and style. Not all letters may be published.

Mail: 4301 Lakeside Dr., Richmond, CA 94806

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Please write JOURNAL LETTERS on the envelope, at the top of the fax or in the subject field of the message.

The school district should try to live within its means, as the rest of us must, and spend the existing funds more wisely. Vote no on Measure J.

Kyle Bruner
El Cerrito

Good school news

West Contra Costa school district has homecoming games, rallies, parades and dances at four comprehensive high schools recently — El Cerrito, Kensington, Pinole Valley and De Anza.

All these events, involving more than 6,000 students at four sites, happened without any violence: no fights, no police action and no injuries (except those occurring on the football fields).

Obviously, our students deserve the highest praise for their good behavior and we must also give credit to our school committees that have raised the awareness of the importance of safety at all our campuses.

Here's my headline: No fights, no shots, no police action, no shootings, weapons found at West Contra Costa school district homecoming games.

And the kids had fun.

Karen Pfeifer
El Cerrito

Pfeifer is a trustee of the West Contra Costa school board.

No on Measure J

As a teacher and administrator for nearly 35 years, I've supported every funding measure for the West Contra Costa school district that's been proposed to voters.

I'm voting "no" on Measure J, even though I feel strongly that good public education is a fundamental right for all children. However, this school board is not acting in a fiscally sound manner and will promote this. They are the only board in the Bay Area that has refused to close and consolidate any small schools.

Schools "break even" on state funding if they have an enrollment of 450 students. There are 38 elementary schools in our district; 20 (more than half) have enrollments under 450. Sixteen (42 percent) have enrollments under 400. Eleven (29 percent) are under 350. And five percent are under 300.

In a challenging state and local budget climate, the board chooses to operate a percent of its elementary schools at a loss.

The failure of the school board to address this financial drain of millions of dollars annually is irresponsible and cowardly. I urge voters to send this board a message: Be responsible fiscal agents of this district or we will not approve any more funding measures.

Cathie K...
Kensington

Forced closure

Many of the supporters of Albany Measure A parcel tax for schools, including Albany City Council members and mayor, recently forced the closure of needed facilities at Saint Mary's Catholic High School with truly unjust cause.

The school, Berkeley's only Catholic high school, is funded by tuition and donations.

As they look forward to school improvements to be provided by Measure A, they should be ashamed of themselves for their actions toward Saint Mary's.

Jeanne Gray Loughlin
Berkeley

Vast range of classes makes best librarians

"Children's librarians are the best people. We are very good at solving day-to-day problems. ... What we don't do well ... is reflect on what we do and why we do it."

—Virginia Walter, 2001, from "Once and Future Library"



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

RECENTLY WROTE a paper comparing subjects taught in library schools to those that are actually needed to be a children's librarian. It was an interesting exercise, since I am doing both, it seems as if I should know at least half the answer right off. However, as with practically any topic, there is always more to know and think about.

I started out by looking at the classes that are offered and other different library schools have similar classes. It seems they do, although the methods and modes of teaching may vary quite a bit. For instance, San Jose State University where I am enrolled, has many online classes. This means these future librarians never meet either their fellow students or their teachers which is an odd concept when you think about it. After working with people like librarians do, and so perhaps working with people would be part of the training. However, I've actually changed my mind about this.

I say that not only because I have taken many classes like — and, in fact, probably wouldn't have been able to find this degree any time soon if I didn't.

But I also say it because as I was writing my paper, I started thinking back on the classes I've taken and was in them. And I remembered all the working students and all the students who don't even live in California. And I realized that these classes attract a different student body, and perhaps the students will contribute ways the more traditional students may not.

I was also interested to see which classes were required which were simply recommended. Of the three schools I looked at, the basic required classes are quite similar. They include introductory information about: developing and

maintaining library materials; managing a library; and what is called in the library profession "information retrieval." I love that term. It sounds so complicated, and basically means the process that is used to get the information someone asks for. The literature on this topic is enormous; researchers are constantly trying to figure out how to get people to ask for what they really want — and then how to give it to them.

But what was particularly fascinating to me were the classes that weren't required. For instance, marketing — a class I'm taking this semester. As libraries compete for funds and attention, marketing — the process of letting the public know how a library can be of help — is going to become more and more crucial.

Another class is interpersonal relationships. This class, like the marketing class, is offered at many schools, but not required. I think understanding how people relate to each other, and gaining skills in this area, is essential. And this leads me to cooperation: At the three schools I considered there is no class specifically on this topic. Yet libraries would do well to learn how to work with other agencies for the benefit of the agencies as well as the community.

Finally — and in my opinion, most critical — there are classes such as the one at San Jose State called "Library Services for Racially and Ethnically Diverse Communities." All over the country libraries are serving an increasingly diverse group of people. A class like this helps librarians understand the how and why of meeting the varying needs of their immediate community. And what could be more important than that?

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@acclib.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, ext. 17.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Albany Library

1247 Marin Ave.
510-526-3720
acclib.org

Hours: Monday, 12-6 p.m.; Tuesday, 12-8 p.m.; Wednesday, 12-8 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ Alison Seevak will hold a drop-in poetry-writing workshop on Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. Seevak is an Albany poet and teacher who has taught writing to children and adults at schools and community arts centers throughout the Bay Area. The free event is in the Edith Stone Room, and open to all ages. Cookies will be served. Questions? Call Ronnie Davis at ext. 16 or rdavis@acclib.org.

■ Flute Sweets & Tickletoons will perform "I Hopped Out of Bed and Jumped for Joy!" in the Edith Stone Room on Tuesday, Nov. 22, at 7 p.m. Keith Torgan of Tickletoons explores the themes that sing loudly in the lives of children. Torgan is a singer, songwriter, guitarist, actor, storyteller and performance artist who has appeared in hundreds of schools, libraries and theaters throughout the United States. Flutist Barbara Siegel of Flute Sweets has performed in major concert halls

throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. This children's event, sponsored by the Friends of the Albany Library, is free. All ages may attend. No registration is required. Questions? Call Julie Winkelstein at ext. 17.

■ The library now has free wireless Internet. A library card is required. This service is available during library open hours. For more information, contact Ronnie Davis at ext. 16 or rdavis@acclib.org.

■ The library has several fall programs. Weekly sing-a-longs are held Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. by Dale Allen Boland, who has been sharing community music-making with the East Bay for more than 15 years. The sing-a-longs are free and for all ages. No registration is required. Drop-in knitting groups for all ages are held on Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. Participants knit blankets for kittens and puppies. Knitting needles and yarn are provided, and all levels of knitters are welcome. For more information on any of the programs, contact Ronnie Davis at ext. 16 or rdavis@acclib.org.

El Cerrito Library

6510 Stockton Ave.
510-526-7512
ccclib.org

Hours: Monday and Tuesday, 12 to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, closed; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 1-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ Oliver Chin, a graphic artist and author, will teach a comic book workshop for teenagers in grades 6 through 12 on Tuesday at 4 p.m. Participants will learn how to create storylines and draw comic book characters. The workshop is free.

■ Children ages 3 and up and their families are invited on Saturday, Nov. 12, at 11 a.m. for a special Children's Book Week craft program with local author Roberta Gould. Gould is the author of a number of children's craft books, including "The Kids' Multicultural Craft Book," "Kiddiopia: Round the Country and Back Through Time in 60 Projects," and "Making Cool Crafts and Awesome Art." She will show some Huichol beaded bowls from Central Mexico, and will have materials available so each child can make one to take home.

■ The fall series of Lapsit story time (formerly known as Babytime and Toddlerline) will continue through Nov. 17. These storytimes, which meet on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., are for babies and toddlers

up to age 3 and their caregivers. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes, and includes songs, bounces, games and fingerplay in addition to the stories. No registration required.

Kensington Library

61 Arlington Ave.
510-524-3043
ccclib.org

Hours: Monday and Tuesday, 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Wednesday, closed; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ The library has several fall programs planned. Family evening story times will be held Tuesdays at 7 p.m. except when pre-empted by special programs. Illustrator Philippe Arnes will present his book "Meow Said the Mouse" on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m. Jan Robitscher and her seeing-eye dog "Christmas" will present a program on guide dogs for the blind on Saturday, Nov. 19, at 11 a.m.

—Craig Lazzarotti

Library activity items may be e-mailed to jwinkelstein@acclib.org. Items should be e-mailed at least one week before publication.

Groups aim to thin feral cat population

By Martin Snapp

STAFF WRITER

Later this month, specially trained volunteers will fan out over Berkeley, Piedmont, Albany and Emeryville, stalking an elusive quarry: feral cats.

But they don't want to harm the little critters; they want to help them.

In an unprecedented case of cooperation, Berkeley Animal Care Services (the city's animal control department) is joining paws with two private groups, the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society and Fix Our Ferals, to drastically reduce the local feral cat population.

"We're doing it because every spring we face the same dilemma," said Mim Carlson, executive director of the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

"Too many kittens, not enough homes."

Their solution: Trap, neuter and release — a system that Fix Our Ferals has been practicing successfully on a smaller scale since 1998, reducing one feral colony at the Berkeley Marina, for instance, from 30 cats to three.

The cats are humanely trapped and whisked to a veterinarian for spaying or neutering and whatever else they need, including vaccinations.

Those that are tame enough are put up for adoption.

Those that aren't are either returned to their original colony or — if the site is dangerous or otherwise unsuitable — relocated into people's back yards. Either way, they get food, water, shelter and protection for the rest of their lives.

One such caretaker is 13-year-old Henry Walton, who has three ferals living in his backyard: two black-and-whites named Mindy and Spot, and a gray tabby named Gromit.

"It's amazing how friendly they become once they learn to trust you," he said. "Gromit is always waiting for me at the front gate every afternoon when I get home from school. Then they snuggle up against my legs, flop over, and let me rub their bellies."

It's a common belief that feral cats — even formerly feral cats —



TUE NAM TON/STAFF

MIM CARLSON, executive director of the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society, left, Linda McCormick of Fix Our Ferals and Kate O'Connor, director of Berkeley Animal Services, are teaming up in an effort to drastically reduce the local feral cat population by trapping, neutering and releasing them.

are dangerous to wild birds and other animals. But Henry says it's not so if the cat is adequately fed.

"Our neighbors have six chickens who wander over to our yard every day to visit the cats. They all like to curl up together and sleep in the sun."

The campaign will last from now through next March.

"We need to do it in the winter, before kitten season starts," says Linda McCormick, executive director of Fix Our Ferals, "because if you trap a mama, and she has her little babies out there, and you don't know about it, the babies will be at great risk."

"Plus, spay/neuter surgery is safer if the cat isn't pregnant," added Kate O'Connor, her counterpart at Berkeley Animal Care Services.

Carlson said each organization has something unique to contribute.

"Linda knows all about trapping, and Kate eased the way with the city for us to lease the city building for our recovery room. We provide the spay/neuter clinic, meeting space and foster parents. And all three of us will be drawing on our pool of volunteers."

The campaign will begin with pilot projects in all four cities. Using feral cat complaints that come

into Animal Care Services as a guide, they will pinpoint target areas. Then a succession of specially trained teams will take over.

First, a team of neighborhood scouts will visit the target spot and gather information, which will be passed on to a trapping team.

The trapping team will organize the actual trapping, providing trappers with everything they need — traps, trap covers, trapping food, newspapers, and a recovery space.

The trapped cats will be passed on to the next team, "TLC caregivers," who will care for them, both pre- and post-surgery, at the Recovery Motel at 91 Bolivar.

After the cats have recovered from surgery, a team of transporters will ferry them either back to their homes or to Animal Care Services or the Humane Society for adoption.

"We'll measure our success by the decrease in complaints that come in next spring," said O'Connor.

"And if we did good, we'll keep doing it every winter until we run out of cats," said McCormick.

HOW TO HELP

Volunteers are needed for many different tasks: trappers, caregivers, transporters, neighborhood scouts and helpers at the Recovery Motel.

■ To volunteer or get more information, call 510-433-9446 or e-mail winterspay2005@yahoo.com.

■ To adopt a cat (feral or otherwise) or dog: The Berkeley Animal Care Services shelter is open seven days a week — Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., all others 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society shelter is open Tuesday-Saturday from noon to 6 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

■ To donate to Fix Our Ferals: Send checks to P.O. Box 13083, Berkeley CA 94712.

■ To donate to the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society: Send checks to 2013 2nd St., Berkeley CA 94710.

■ To donate to Berkeley Animal Care Services: Send checks to 2700 9th St., Berkeley CA 94710. All donations are tax deductible.

"Which is highly unlikely," said Carlson.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2768 or e-mail mnsnapp@cctimes.com.

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LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Albany Senior Center — Weekdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 846 Masonic Ave. Reading group Mondays, 9 a.m. Literacy, writing memoirs, line dancing, etc. at Mercy Brown Bag today. 524-9122.

Central Lutheran Senior Center — Weekdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 780 Ashbury Ave. Conversational German and English, current events, computers, crafts and exercise. 510-524-4444.

John's Senior Center — Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 6500 Gladys Ave. Today, guest speaker will be Rina author of "The Singing Pope"

and other children's books. 510-237-3808.

■ **The Open House** — Mondays-Thursdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Fridays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. 6500 Stockton Ave. Social recreation programs; support groups; health insurance counseling; case management; computer classes; monthly tea dance; senior excursions; hiking; kayaking; art classes. 510-215-4340.

Kensington

■ **Kensington Senior Activity Center** — Thursdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. Instruction in conversational German, watercolor painting and meditation group. 510-526-9146.

—Dora Scardina

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ALBANY SCHOOL NOTES

Albany High School

THEATER PRODUCTION: This is the final weekend for Albany High School Theater Ensemble's production of "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead." The remaining performances are tonight and Saturday night at 8 p.m. The performance will include Tom Stoppard's other take-off of Hamlet, the parody "The Fifteen-Minute Hamlet," as a prologue to "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern." Tickets, at \$5 for students and seniors and \$10 for adults, are sold at the door, night of show only. Theater Ensemble is the only student-run, self-supporting club at Albany High. For information, contact 510-558-2500 ext. 2579 or www.theaterensembletripod.com.

CSF APPLICATIONS: Juniors and seniors: CSF applications based on grades from spring 2005 are now available in the counseling office. Please turn in application and dues as soon as possible. See the bulletin board outside the counseling office for more information.

MADRIGAL: Enjoy song and music at this year's madrigal, presented by AMT, concert choir and advanced chorale Nov. 11 and 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room.

RECYCLING: Bring cell phones, Palm Pilots (or PDAs), printer cartridges, laser toner cartridges to the main office or WorkAbility office. No Epson cartridges.

PARENTS NIGHT: Parents of AHS choral and instrumental students are asked to attend the Parents' Night at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in the Little Theater. This meeting was previously scheduled for Nov. 1. Because of space limitations, it will be helpful if only one parent per student attends this meeting.

DRUG LECTURES: The Albany Drug and Alcohol Task Force is sponsoring two educational lectures this fall. On Nov. 8, John Leard, MFT, of the Kaiser Oakland Chemical Dependency Recovery Program will speak about the process of addiction. On Dec. 7, David Hecknively, MS, MFT, will talk about teen behavior. Both lectures will take place at the AHS library at 7 p.m. The events are free and open to all Albany parents and interested community members. For more information, contact DAF member Mary-Jane Lawless at 510-558-5530.

Albany Middle School

RESEARCH STUDY: Attention: parents of students with a diagnosis of ADD/ADHD. The transcendental meditation research study needs a few more students to go forward. Please contact school counselor Ms. Marie at 510-558-3669.

Cornell Elementary

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE: For parent-teacher conferences Nov. 7-22, students in grades 1-5 will arrive at 8:30 and leave at 1:40 (grades 4-5) or 1:45 (grades 1-3). No changes in kindergarten schedule.

PICTURES: Make-up/retake picture day is Nov. 9, for students who were absent or forgot to bring money and still wish to purchase photos. If you are not satisfied with the pictures taken earlier, contact the photographers to see if they would be able to retake on the day. Order forms/envelopes are in the office. Also on this day at 8:30 a.m. on the playground, one parent will take a panoramic photo of the entire student body and staff. These will be available at cost this fall.

SPANISH CLASSES: Spanish classes begin Nov. 7 for grades 1-3 and Nov. 9 for grades 4-5. (Please note that this is a change of start dates). Fliers went home recently with complete information for these after-school classes. Each session consists of 15 hours of classes and costs \$150.

Marin Elementary

WEB NEWS: The Marin School PTA Web site is www.marinchoolpta.org. With the e-tree available for current and breaking information, the Web site is a useful resource for long-term and archival information and, hopefully, community love and collective knowledge. Contributions of interest to Marin families, especially to those new to the district and school, are welcome. Site content should be pertinent to the PTA and its activities, but suggestions for useful links, photos of past activities (or plans to attend and document future ones), and, in particular, helpful text are more than welcome. Please e-mail contributions to ross@stapleton-gray.com.

SCHOOL BENEFIT: Cody's School Benefit Daze is Nov. 11-14. Purchases at either Cody's locations in Berkeley (2454 Telegraph Ave. and 1730 Fourth St.) generate a rebate of 15 percent to Marin School. Save your receipts and turn them in at the office.

PARENT CONFERENCES: Teachers are currently scheduling conferences (Nov. 7-23), giving parents a chance to discuss student progress. Your child's grade-level standards are at www.cde.ca.gov. During conference days, grades 1-5 will be on an adjusted schedule, 8:30-1:45. The kindergarten schedule does not change.

— Bob Menzinger

EL CERRITO SCHOOL NOTES

El Cerrito High School

COMMUNITY PROJECT: The El Cerrito High School Community Project is looking for a person to volunteer 4-8 hours per week to provide administrative support. The Community Project is based on the ECHS campus, offering individual and group counseling, conflict mediation, academic support, youth development, and other support programs for ECHS students. Your volunteer efforts will allow the counselors to focus their efforts on providing direct service to students dealing with crises and in need of immediate assistance. Tasks include basic clerical work such as, data entry, photocopying, filing, answering the phone, logging referrals, and other clerical tasks as they arise. If you're interested, call the community project director, Jenn Rader, at 510-524-8252.

JAZZ PERFORMANCE: The ECHS Jazz Ensemble will perform following the Contra Costa Civic Theater's production of "Noises Off" on Thursday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m. A complimentary reception will be held after the play while the band sets up to play on the COCT stage. Doors open at 6 p.m. General admission tickets are \$20. Call Shoko Kiyono at 510-236-5736 or e-mail skiyono@aol.com and leave your name and number. Proceeds will benefit ECHS Music.

ARCHIVING COMMITTEE: The ECHS Archiving Committee is looking for a volunteer who is an experienced Web editor to manage and further develop on an ongoing basis the ECHS archiving Web site at www.newechs.org. The Web editor will ensure that the "virtual" aspect of the archiving project is up to date and maintained. Qualifications: Experience with Web site development and maintenance. If

you are interested, contact Joann Steck-Bayat at 510-524-9464 or j-bayat@comcast.net.

CRAB FEED: The Albany/El Cerrito Exchange Club and El Cerrito High Athletics will present a crab feed Jan. 28 at the Richmond Civic Auditorium. If coaches or sport groups would like their team to receive some of the proceeds, contact Michele Jawad at EcJawad@aol.com.

COLLEGE VISITS: The following on-campus college visits will take place at lunch (usually 11:40 a.m.) in Room 4 of the College/Career Center. The list is updated frequently, so check the bulletin board next to Room 4's door. Mills College: Nov. 9.

Harding Elementary

KINDERGARTEN TOUR: A kindergarten tour will be held Wednesday at 9 a.m. at the school library. It will include a presentation by parents and principal and classroom tours. Complimentary coffee and pastries will be provided by Starbucks and Semifreddi's Bakery. Please RSVP to the school office at 510-231-1413.

PTA NEWS: For an overview of PTA events planned for the entire school

year, visit the calendar section at hardingpta.org/calendar/calendar.php. Basic family dues are \$10. Membership forms are available in the office. For more information, contact Kara at kara@jahoeheights.com.

St. Jerome

INFORMATION NIGHT: Parents of preschool children are invited to a special kindergarten information night at St. Jerome Catholic School in El Cerrito on Wednesday at 7 p.m. Principal Maria Korte and staff members will be on hand to talk about the school, a K-8 institution now celebrating its 50th year, and answer questions. The school is located at 320 San Carlos Ave. (top of Fairmount Avenue). Call 510-525-9484 for more information.

Tehiyah Day School

UPCOMING EVENTS: Preschool Havdalah Celebration, Sunday, Nov. 6, 10-11:30 a.m.; kindergarten information evening, Wednesday, Nov. 9, 7-8:30 p.m.; middle school information evening, Thursday, Dec. 1, 7-8:30 p.m.

— Craig Lazzeretti

KENSINGTON SCHOOL NOTES

Kensington Elementary

GARDEN PARTY: The annual Garden Party on Saturday features both a silent and live auction, music and dinner. This is the school's biggest fundraiser.

SUPERVISORS NEEDED: The school still needs assistance with traffic patrol and noon duty supervision. If you are interested, contact the office at 510-

231-1415.

KATRINA RELIEF: In response to a request for help from a post-hurricane shelter for pregnant women and newborns in Baton Rouge, La., Mr. Aiken's students made "Congratulations" cards and donated wrapped new baby gifts for each new mother.

School notes may be e-mailed to journal@cctimes.com.

Trip gives chance to discuss details

Q. WE ARE GOING to take my elderly parents on a cruise next month. We now recall how many things they forgot to pack last time we vacationed together. Short of going over to their house and packing for them, what suggestions would you have on getting them more organized?



CONNIE LYNCH
Don't Lose Your Mind

A. You mention going to their house, so be sure to meet with them and discuss the necessities that will be involved. I am a firm believer in lists. Encourage them to make a list of things they will need, or perhaps you could prepare one of your own that lists the type of things that they forgot the last time.

Inasmuch as you have taken trips with your parents before, and it appears that you have a good relationship. This might well be an appropriate time to discuss ways to help them to be more aware and able to prepare for the next trip, as well as for life in general.

You will have only a short time before the trip to start this couple on a program of mental improvement, but give it a try. In the long run, it could be a big help. Besides preparing a list of necessities for this trip, try some activities to encourage them to remember their last trip.

What kinds of activities did

they take part in? Where, exactly, did they go, and in what order were the cities or other places that they visited? Pull as many details as possible from them. Do they remember any meals? Often on a special trip, there are very special things to eat and drink.

How about unusual or outstanding ship or hotel areas? Sometimes a dining area is set up differently, or a bar, or a balcony — so many possibilities. It may also happen that once remembering begins, a particular detail will call to mind another, and so on. This is a good type of memory exercise, and may well cause improvement.

During the trip, talk about the activities you are doing and the places you are visiting. This will make your parents more aware of things that are happening, and awareness is the most important component of

mental fitness.

Too often we all let things slide by unnoticed less often this happens after we are. Details are important to all of us. As we have returned, be sure to mention your parents about that trip, and remind them of that you all did.

After the traveling is over, I encourage you to encourage your parents to pursue a program of mental activities mentioned that they are, but I never allow age to play a role in the pursuit of mental fitness, unless the individual involved has some type of serious problem such as dementia or Alzheimer's disease. My Mind Works "series" have been in their upper 90s. Try to help this come come puzzle and problem solvers or encourage them to take a class in which they are interested. An active brain is such an asset for memory for mental health in general.

E-mail inquiries for *Connie Lynch* resident *Connie Lynch* at nienmy@aol.com. *Lynch* is the founder of *Mind Works* mental fitness program, designed for older adults, and the author of "Don't Lose Your Mind, Four Components of Mental Fitness." For information on books and classes, call 510-466-5832.

BUSINESS NAME FILINGS

The following individuals or corporations filed fictitious-business-name statements in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The Journal makes every effort to ensure accuracy but cannot be held responsible if there are errors or omissions in this list. The Journal gathers information from fictitious-business name filings with the counties; not all listings are new businesses. These listings

are a public service and do not satisfy requirements that business owners advertise legal notices of their business names.

Albany

Sheryl Fishman Consulting, Sheryl Fishman, 1298 Albina Ave. #B.

El Cerrito

Axio Studio, Michael Witwer, 3020 El Cerrito Plaza #307.
Draper & Esquin, Draper & Esquin

Wine & Spirits (a California liability company), Barbara M. owski, 8275 Terrace Drive, L and D Consultants, Daniel L. 6306 Eureka Ave. #1.
Simple Photos, Jomar Encinas, San Pablo Ave. #408.
The Village at Town Center, Plaza II Apartments, (a California liability company), Jamar 10825 San Pablo Ave.
Universal Tactol Arts, Terry L. Fairview Drive.

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California Native Plant Society
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Sun. 10:00-5:30

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27TH GRADES 6-8 8-9:30 PM
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH GRADES K-8 7-8:30 PM

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2006 SHOW DATES
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MAY 7 • JUN 4 • JUL 2 • AUG 6

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Calendar

...to the Community Calen-
...received Thursdays one
...publication. Listings are
...on a regular basis. Mail sub-
...Pena Meetings, 1516 Oak
...CA 94601; e-mail them
...@japena.org or fax
...510-748-1880. Call 510-748-
...have questions.

Coming Up

Children's Museum

Children's Museum — Chil-
dren's Museum at 10:30 a.m., La
Shattuck Center, 3105 Shattuck
Ave., Berkeley. Nov. 5, Harvest of
the Sun. Nov. 12, Gary Tenney, Tick-
ets: \$5. Details: www.japena.org.

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PU CUNXIN, left, **Liang Guanha** and **Yang Lixin** perform in **Lao She's Beijing People's Art Theatre's "The Teahouse"** at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Show times are 8 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. The drama company is the first from China to tour internationally. "The Teahouse" is set in a traditional teahouse and follows the lives of its owners and patrons through three stages in modern Chinese history. For tickets or more information, visit calperfs.berkeleyu.edu or call 510-642-9988.

sessions include bullies, boyfriends,
peer-pressure & more. Details: 510-
847-2400 or www.kurukula.com.

Berkeley Rep School of Theatre

— Accepting submissions through
Dec. 2 from local teens for its Target
Teen One Acts Festival. Teens select
two original plays penned by local
students to be performed, directed,
and staged by their peers. This year's
theme is "Escape." Details:
www.berkeleyrep.org or 510-647-
2972.

Crowden School Open House

— Information night, Dec. 7, 7-8:30
p.m., 1475 Rose St., Berkeley. Middle
school, grades 4-8, combines chal-
lenging curriculum with chamber mu-
sic program for students of strings,
piano, composition. Future dates:
Jan. 11, Feb. 1. Details: 510-559-
6910 or www.crowden.org.

Community

Breakfast, Golf, BBQ Fund-raiser

— Nov. 4; check-in 6:30 a.m., 7:30
start, 12 p.m., lunch; Tilden Park Golf
Course, Berkeley. Coffee & scones,
morning round of golf, BBQ lunch

buffet. Prizes. Proceeds fund schol-
arships & tournament fees for Alameda-
Contra Costa Youth Soccer League's
Mavericks Elite Under 12 Girls team.
Fee: \$100 per player, \$16 lunch only.
Make checks payable to: Alameda-
Contra Costa Youth Soccer League;
mail to ACC Youth Soccer League,
1317 Walnut St., Berkeley CA 94709.
Details: Jim 510-548-8097.

Rendezvous — ABA 9th annual

Charity Fashion Show — Nov. 4, 7
p.m., Julia Morgan Center for the
Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley.
Asian Business Association's event
combines fashion, music and dance
performances. Proceeds benefit Cen-
ter for Independent Living. Tickets:
\$10-12. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

Kensington Elementary School

Garden Party — Nov. 5, 5:30-11
p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 1
Lawson Road, Kensington. Food,
wine, live music, large silent auction,
live auction MC'd by ex-49ers Bubba
Paris. Proceeds benefit Kensington
Elementary School programs. Tick-
ets: \$45-\$50; call Christy 510-558-
1842.

Mind. Dec. 18: Abbe Blum on "Bud-
dhist Tales for All Ages." Details: 510-
843-6812.

Adoption in the Interfaith Jewish

Family — Nov. 8, 7:30 p.m., Berkeley
Richmond Jewish Community Center,
1414 Walnut St., Berkeley. Hear a
panel of adoptive parents discuss the
joys and realities of raising children
from a variety of racial and cultural
backgrounds with a Jewish identity.
For adults only. Cost: \$10/person or
\$15/couple. Details: 510-839-2900
x249 or e-mail alice@jfed.org.

Election officers needed

— Nov. 8, throughout Alameda County. Reg-
istrar of Voters needs to staff polling
places for special statewide election.
Must be eligible to register to vote in
Alameda County, have basic clerical
skills. Stipend range \$80-\$100. De-
tails: 510-272-6971.

SeniorNet Computer Lab

— Nov. 9, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.; 5-7 p.m., Open
House Senior Center, 6500 Stockton
Ave., El Cerrito. Open house cele-
brates grand reopening of the Senior-
Net Computer Lab. New software, re-
cycled & refurbished computer
systems, flat screen monitors. Meet
volunteer technology instructors, dis-
cover other programs & services. Re-
freshments served. Details: 510-215-
4340.

National Alliance for the Mentally

Ill — Family Support Group, Nov. 9,
7-8:45 p.m., Albany United Methodist
Church, 980 Stannage Ave., Albany.
Free. Those with mentally ill relatives
can share information, get emotional
support. Details: 510-524-1250.

North Berkeley Senior Center

— Free events at 1901 Hearst Ave.,
Berkeley. Nov. 9, 1:15 p.m., Toast-
masters members give various short
speeches. — Nov. 10, 1 p.m., cro-
quet at Ohlone Park (Hearst Avenue
& MLK Jr. Way.) — Nov. 14, 1 p.m.,
Books and Ideas group discuss
"Mountains Beyond Mountains." —

Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., update on
Parkinson's disease patient care by
Carol Evans, RNC, NT. — Nov. 18,
11 a.m., Meika Low leads discus-
sion for women on Images of Aging.

— Nov. 23, 1:15 p.m., share a
poem, a song, a short story, and a
joke with Lynn Rayburn. — Nov. 22:
Alden Bryant & Lucretia Prentiss
give a Thanksgiving musical pro-
gram. Refreshments served. —

Scrabble: Nov. 9 & 23, 10 a.m.;
Nov. 17, 1 p.m. Details: 510-981-
5190.

Mobile Blood Drive

— American
Red Cross, Nov. 10, 12-6 p.m., Ele-

phant Pharmacy, 1706 Shattuck Ave.,
Berkeley. Appointments: 800-448-
3543 or www.BeADonor.com.

El Cerrito Garden Club

fundraiser — Nov. 10, 9:30 a.m., El
Cerrito Community Center, 7007
Moeser Lane, El Cerrito. "Flower Ex-
pressions" presented by Mary Hall,
Barbara Post, Bob Post of Bay Area
Arrangers Guild & Founders Council
of Judges. Raffle of floral designs,
silent auction, plant sale, baked
goods, herbal products, refresh-
ments. Group supports civic beauti-
fication, education, environment. Fee
\$5. Details: 510-526-2976.

Veteran's Day Celebration

— Nov. 11, 5 p.m., on board the Red
Oak Victory Ship, berth #6, Rich-
mond Port; take HWY 580, exit at
Canal Blvd. Tea dancing to Hornet
Museum Dance Band. Wine, cheese
& dinner \$20. Details: 510-222-9200.

Berkeley Chamber of Commerce

event — "The Community and the
University Partnership for Berkeley's
Future," Nov. 15, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.,
DoubleTree Hotel, 200 Marina Blvd.,
Berkeley. Guest speakers: Mayor Tom
Bates, Chancellor Robert J. Birge-
neau. Cost includes lunch: \$35-\$60.
Details: 510-549-7003.

Holiday Sale

— Nov. 25, 7:30-
9:30 p.m.; Nov. 26, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.;
Northbrae Church, 941 The Alameda,
Berkeley. Original Silver Jewelry sale
& celebration by 35 local designers
working in precious metal clay. De-
tails: www.artinsilver.com or Hadar
510-528-4193.

Art Exhibit and Sale

— Lumi-
nance Group, Nov. 26-27, 11 a.m.-6
p.m., 1216 Gilman St., Berkeley.
Nothing over \$150, many pieces for
less.

Programs at the Albany Senior

Center, 846 Masonic Ave., Albany:
Low Vision Support Group is at 11
a.m.-12 p.m. on last Monday of each
month. Free. — Massage Therapy is
Tuesdays at 2:30-5 p.m. and Wednes-
days at 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost: \$10
per 15 minute session. Smoking Ces-
sation Group, Fridays, 10 a.m.-12
p.m., sliding scale \$3-\$10 per week.
— Senior Issues Support Group,
Thursdays 11 a.m.-12 p.m., \$15. —
World Affairs/Politics group meets
Thursdays 3:30-5 p.m. for 10 weeks
through Dec. 8, for people 60+
years. \$2.50/session includes refresh-
ments. Details/registration: 510-524-
9122.

See CALENDAR, Page A8

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FROM PAGE A7

1831/90



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Innovation

PAGE A1

...dovetailing with the effort to take advantage of revitalization of nearby Plaza and turn adjacent Fairmount Avenue into a pedestrian-friendly "main

Lehman, co-chairperson of Friends of the Cerrito Theater, says it's a vast improvement over what the area was when she moved to El Cerrito 10 years ago.

Lehman and San Francisco's Fairmount Avenue are turning into something new, said Lehman, "and the 'there' there in El Cerrito is the new groundbreak-

ing theater will be held at 4:30 p.m. The theater is on San Pablo Avenue, about four blocks south of San Pablo Avenue, Carlson Boulevard, Coffee will hold a grand party from 9 a.m. to 4

Trevino, El Cerrito's recreation manager, said there had been a plan to bring Peet's to El Cerrito. The business opened a few weeks ago.

"I heard they ran out of beans on the first day, they're expecting it to be their top-performing

Back on Fairmount Avenue, less than two blocks east of San Pablo Avenue at Kearney Street, violin store Ifshin Violins will begin construction next spring at its new home in what is now an empty office building.

Across the street from Ifshin, local businessman Prospero "Pete" Dito is constructing the Il Mio Cafe. He believes it will compete favorably with Starbucks a block east.

Which begs the question: Are there too many cafes?

"Maybe a year from now," following the construction of the theater, said Timmons, "the answer will be no."

City officials see the cafes as part of an effort to increase pedestrian traffic in the area that will build on the success of the revitalized El Cerrito Plaza.

In addition, lower Fairmount Avenue recently underwent a \$1.8 million facelift that placed utility lines underground and installed new lampposts, garbage cans and benches.

Lehman said she was particularly fond of the banners — featuring the El Cerrito logo — the city recently installed on the new lampposts.

But the city has invested much more on the theater project, to the tune of more than \$5 million in redevelopment money.

Some believe the costs will only continue to rise and that the money could have been used in better ways.

Lehman, however, remains

upbeat.

"With the theater at night and the newer restaurants and coffee shops," said Lehman, "there's a reason for people to be there day and night, and it can only help local business and the local economy."

Carrying a Whole Foods canvas bag and dropping off some mail at the post office on lower Fairmount Avenue one recent morning, El Cerrito resident Valerie Snider said she was happy with the revitalized plaza — though she disliked how difficult it was to walk from one store to another — as well as the Fairmount improvements and the theater.

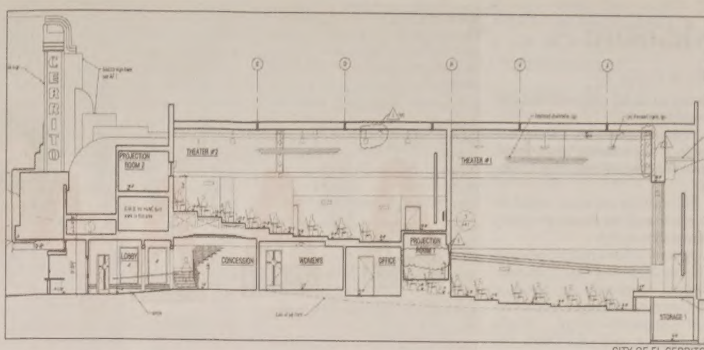
"I was completely in favor of making it a pedestrian-friendly area," Snider said. "I live in El Cerrito, and I like to walk. Anything we can do to reduce car usage, I'm in favor of."

"It's also good for the city to have people out and about and have commercial areas where people walk and shop, meet friends, hang out and get a cup of coffee."

Walking along Fairmount Avenue from the BART station to his part-time job, 10-year El Cerrito resident Glenn Jones said he was also generally pleased with the direction in which San Pablo and Fairmount avenues were heading.

"If they just redid the potholes on the street," Jones said, "I'd be a happy man."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or e-mail alopez1@cc-times.com.



THIS ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING shows renovation plans for the Cerrito Theater.

Kensington Flower and Gift Shop invites you to join us at our 4th Annual Holiday Open House on Saturday, November 5th, from 9AM - 3PM

Featuring holiday decor by...

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Measure A

FROM PAGE A1

district to do its measure this November.

"People move to Albany because of our schools," said Good, "not because of our City Council."

He said the expense would be worth it and increase property values in the city.

Albany school district officials also support the tax. Superintendent Willie Wong donated \$200 to the campaign; and assistant superintendent Marla Stephenson and Lisa Quan, the director of the Albany Children's Center donated \$100 a piece, according to campaign finance documents.

Four businesses that work with the district donated a combined \$2,500 to the campaign.

San Leandro-based Brayer Electric Company donated \$1,000, while Sacramento-based Capital Program Management, San Francisco law firm Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe, and Salt Lake City-based Zion Management Services Co. donated \$500 each.

"They're all businesses that do business with the school district, which means they're long-term supporters," said school district board member Miriam Walden. "They buy tickets to the plays, donate to (fund-raising group) School CARE, and donate to the



ASSEMBLYWOMAN LONI HANCOCK speaks in support of Measure A during a campaign event at Albany High on Oct. 27. Measure A is the Albany School District parcel tax on the Tuesday ballot.

campaigns."

Residents already pay two parcel taxes for city schools. Measure A would charge homeowners \$250 per home annually and commercial property owners 5

cents per square foot of space, or \$250 per parcel, whichever is higher.

It would increase annually at the rate of inflation and exempt low-income homeowners over the

age of 65. Low-income renters could apply for rebates.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or e-mail alopez1@cctimes.com.

Condo

FROM PAGE A1

Developer Carl Fortney readily agreed to work with the owner of El Cerrito Plaza on a traffic study as well as proposing improvements to the plaza's traffic circulation.

The planning commission is requiring the study and proposed improvements to be completed no more than three months after the project receives final approval.

"We're committed to making this a great project for the city," Fortney said, following the meeting. He added that he would meet with any residents to address their concerns.

All of the commissioners and many residents said they favored some kind of development in what is now a vacant corner of the bustling shopping center — and a couple blocks from the El Cerrito BART station — but disagreed about whether Creekside was the right one.

"I do think the scale of the project is too large for this particular site," said Bea O'Keefe, one of two commissioners who voted against approving a use permit for the project. "I'm not opposed to development there. I think it can be done. I'm perplexed the developer has not done more to meet the concerns of the Albany and El Cerrito residents in the area."

The use permit was granted under the city's incentives program, which allows exceptions to the city's municipal code in exchange for projects the city deems desirable. The development fails to meet the city's requirements for parking spaces, private open space, height and density.

Commissioner David Brandt said the project wasn't perfect, but he believed it met the city's goals for transit-oriented development. There's few places for such developments, he said. He liked that it had fewer parking spaces than the city required to encourage the use of public transit, and that it had a high density.

"It appears that everyone loves transit-oriented development but doesn't like it in their neighborhood," Brandt said. "I can understand that."

Brandt suggested that the project include five parking spaces

Safeway

FROM PAGE A1

"Our property values are going to go down," said resident Ric Prindle.

One woman said she recalled moving to the area 37 years ago when there was little more to upper Solano Avenue than a couple of ice cream parlors and movie theaters.

"We don't need any more vitality," she said.

Residents also complained about Safeway trucks traversing the narrow streets of Neilson and Curtis, and worried about the increased threat to children's safety from the additional traffic.

Others said they didn't believe people would use the underground parking garage and would instead park on the street.



A NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING was recently held to show off Safeway's plans for a new store with 40 to 60 condominiums on top of the building.

Some residents jeered and interrupted the presentation from the architect and developer un-

til an admonishment from Albany resident Ray Anderson to listen and be civil.

John Marasco, the managing director of development for Security Properties, said more grocery stores are looking at building housing on top of their stores. Safeway already has one such project near SBC Park in San Francisco.

The housing would be configured in a U-shape with a courtyard. An alleyway between the back of Safeway and homes would be landscaped.

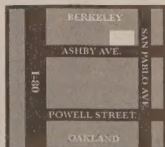
The back of the project would sit 25 feet away from already-existing homes.

"(Housing) is an allowed use, and it is a needed commodity," said Ann Chaney, Albany's community development director. "It will be an interesting discussion because homes in the area are close by on small lots."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or e-mail alopez1@cctimes.com.



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Median home price, sales up from last September, Realtor association says

ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

The median price of an existing home in California increased 17.3 percent in September and sales increased 3.9 percent compared with the same period a year ago, according to the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.).

Year-to-date sales of existing, detached homes in California totaled 650,780 in September, a 17.3 percent increase over the same period a year ago, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90 local Realtor associations.

Statewide sales figure represented the total number of homes sold during 2005 would be if sales continued at the September pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

Median price of an existing, detached home in California during September 2005 was \$260, a 17.3 percent increase over the revised \$221,630 median price in September 2004, C.A.R. reports.

The September 2005 median price decreased 4.4 percent from August's revised \$272,000 median price.

September median home price compared with August has been the same since 1993, and in the last 26 years, said C.A.R. economist Jim Hamilton.

There is no exception and the seasonal shift to an uptick in the real estate market as we approach year's end.

"Despite the seasonal slow down for the market as a whole, the median price in the High Desert, Riverside/San Bernardino, Santa Barbara South Coast and San Luis Obispo regions hit record highs last month," he said.

"Year-to-date sales are on track with our expectation that the market in 2005 will set new records for both statewide sales and median price," said C.A.R. Vice President and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young.

"Entry level and mid-range homes are showing more strength in year-over-year price gains compared with the high end of the market. But all tiers of the market are appreciating more slowly than they did a year ago."

Highlights

■ C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in September 2005 was 3.3 months, compared with 3 months (revised) for the same period a year ago. The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

■ Thirty-year fixed mortgage interest rates averaged 5.77 percent during September 2005, compared with 5.75 percent in September 2004, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 4.51 percent in September 2005 compared with 3.99 percent in September 2004.

■ The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 32 days in September 2005, compared with 29 days (revised) for the same period a year ago.

HIGHEST MEDIAN PRICES

Palos Verdes Estate, \$1,600,000
Manhattan Beach, \$1,578,000
Burlingame, \$1,419,000
Los Altos, \$1,410,500
Newport Beach, \$1,399,000
Coronado, \$1,350,000
Saratoga, \$1,314,000
Calabasas, \$1,218,000
Carmel, \$1,200,000
Hermosa Beach, \$1,200,000

The MLS median price and sales data for detached homes are generated from a survey of more than 90 associations of Realtors throughout the state. MLS median price and sales data for condominiums are based on a survey of more than 60 associations. The median price for both detached homes and condominiums represents closed escrow sales.

In a separate report covering more localized statistics generated by C.A.R. and DataQuick Information Systems, 95.2 percent or 394 of 414 cities and communities showed an increase in their respective median home prices from a year ago. DataQuick statistics are based on county records data rather than MLS information.

Large changes in local median home prices typically indicate both local home price appreciation, and often, large shifts in the composition of housing market activity. Some of the variations in median home prices may be exaggerated due to compositional changes in housing demand.

Real Estate Spotlight:

Stunning home has privacy, San Francisco Bay views



THE STUNNING HOME AT 51 LANE COURT Oakland, is owned by a nationally recognized author and designer of jewelry and home accessories. Elegant décor and renovations throughout the house enhance the panoramic view of the Bay from Mt. Tamalpais to the San Mateo Bridge. The main level is only eight steps from the two-car attached garage. The master bedroom suite has views and plenty of closet space. Its marble bathroom boasts double sinks and a jetted tub that has views of San Francisco Bay and Lake Merritt. The updated kitchen features granite countertops and stainless steel appliances. The adjacent room is perfect as a spacious breakfast room or a cozy family room. The handsome living room and dining room have crown moldings, recessed lighting and hardwood floors. Both rooms open onto the deck where one enjoys breathtaking views of San Francisco Bay. A second suite on the main level is perfect for a home office or guest quarters. The lower level is accessible from both within the house and a separate entrance from a side patio that features a fireplace. This level hosts two bedrooms, a bathroom and a spacious rumpus room with a third fireplace. The extremely private location — tucked away on cul-de-sac — and extensive outdoor living space make it a piece of paradise.

Price: \$1,895,000.

Listing agent: Angela Wei Grubb, The Grubb Co., Oakland, 510-339-0400, ext. 202 or Awgrubb@grubbco.com, www.grubbco.com.

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Open Homes

COMING SOON

MONT PINES \$1,195,000

EXETER DRIVE

3+/-, 2.5ba

Open floor plan, dining room, family room and kitchen. Landscaped yard, decks, and pool.

339.8400~339.4550

14 P.M.

WHITE DEL CABBALLO

One level 4Br/3.5ba at end of cul-de-sac. Living rm w/ fireplace, FR, wet bar, dining room. This one has it all.

339.8400~339.4566

1-5 P.M.

BROADWAY TERRACE

One on market. City and GG views, stepped garden path to a large deck and well maintained lawn, beams and clear Douglas fir. Home pride-of-ownership. AM kitchen, PN light cascades deck & pool.

339.8400~339.4566

1-5 P.M.

BROADWAY TERRACE

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BROADWAY TERRACE

One on market. City and GG views, stepped garden path to a large deck and well maintained lawn, beams and clear Douglas fir. Home pride-of-ownership. AM kitchen, PN light cascades deck & pool.

339.8400~339.4566

OPEN SUN 2-5 P.M.

LAKE AREA \$825,000

306 OAKLAND AVENUE

Lovely restored Victorian-short walk to Lake Merritt. New foundation, 2-1/2-car garage, kitchen, bath. Home-networking. On record as duplex, now one home!

Jack Brennerman 339.8400~339.4557

OPEN SUN 2-5 P.M.

ELMWOOD \$799,000

2940 PINE AVENUE

Classic Elmwood Craftsman circa 1906. Lovely trim and built-ins, new foundation, electric and roof. Two fireplaces, master suite and private deck. See photos at:

PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400~482.9000

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.

PIEDMONT PINES \$739,000

6340 MELVILLE DRIVE

1st time on market. Serene, pvt location. 3BR/2ba charming contemporary. Across from Regional Park. Hardwood floors, beamed high ceiling. Freshly painted in & out. Beautiful rock garden.

Martha Shurin 339.8400~339.4565

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.

OAKMORE AREA \$699,000

1781 CASTERLINE ROAD

Nestled on a quiet tree-lined street this 1928 charmer has great light and rich wood trim. The formal dining room and living room are a perfect setting for holiday entertaining! See photos at:

PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400~482.9000

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.

LOWER OAKMORE \$670,000

3972 FRUITVALE

Wonderful 3/1 & artist studio w/ separate entrance in serene lower Oakmore. Split level yard w/ patio for entertaining, close to Montclair & Fruitvale shops, freeways. A great school district & much more.

Robert Scott 339.4000~910.5179

OPEN SUN 2-5 P.M.

BERKELEY \$599,000

2067 BONAR STREET

Just listed! Fully updated like new! Excellent University Ave location. Large new kitchen w/ granite counters, plus cottage w/ bath, perfect for home office. See photos at:

PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400~482.9000

OPEN SUN 1-4:30 P.M.

OAK KNOLL \$599,000

3487 MARGARITA AVENUE

GRAB THE BRUSH and paint the colors you want in this 3Br/2ba bi-level home. LR with cathedral ceilings and dramatic brick fireplace. Updated kit & baths, two car w/ storage. Located in a pleasant community surrounded by open space. See photos at:

www.SueCaro.com 339.8400~339.4284

OPEN SUN 1-5 P.M.

FRUITVALE \$598,000

1703-37TH AVENUE

Two beautiful homes on one lot. Completely remodeled with permits featuring new plumbing, electrical systems, roof and foundation, hardwood floors, wood cabinets and granite countertops.

David Sykes 339.8400~301.3767

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.

OAKLAND \$595,000

5134 DAISY STREET

Just like new! Totally remodeled classic 1950 home, nu windows, nu kitchen, nu bath & more! Three bright bedrooms and formal dining. Fully landscaped yard. See photos at:

PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400~482.9000

OPEN SAT 2-4:30 P.M.

LOWER FRUITVALE \$579,000

1801-27TH AVENUE

Fruitvale fourplex. Remodeled kitchens w/ granite counters & remodeled baths. New carpet, new paint, new back deck. All work done with permits.

Nicole Edgar 339.4000~326.5754

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.

GLENNVIEW \$579,000

4042 CANON AVENUE

\$50K price reduction on this Glenview charmer, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Updated sunny kitchen. Level, pvt yard, garage & much more. Walk to park, schools, bus & shops. Call today.

Arnold Mueller 339.4000

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.

KING ESTATES \$559,000

3601 LAMP STREET

Versatile 3Br/2ba home set in the trees, hardwood flrs, all new bath, FDR, upstairs: 2Br/1ba; downstairs: FR & 1 br, full bath, pvt ent. Large lot.

Joe Ashton 339.4000~899.6323

OPEN SUN 1-4 P.M.

VALLEJO \$524,950

127 VANESSA

Beautiful 4Br/2.5ba home in Cimarron Hills in Vallejo. Master, FR, FR w/ fireplace. Gorgeous yard w/ fruit trees, fountain, Min to 180, 129, 137, ferry & Manette World & more!

Antoinette Radwan 339.8400~899.6331

OPEN SUN 1-4 P.M.

EL SOBRANTE \$449,000

4661 WHITE SANDS CT

New listing! Expansive picture window looking out to large tree-lined lot. Beamed ceilings and fireplace highlight this cozy ranch style home.

Michael Harding 339.4000~899.6307

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.

OAKLAND \$350,000

1517-76TH AVENUE

Cute 2Br/1ba bungalow with a spacious floor plan. New interior and exterior paint. Quiet street.

Ken Nwokedi 339.4000~485.5119

OPEN SUN 2-4:30 P.M.

ROCKRIDGE \$309,000

2005 PLEASANT VALLEY, #313

Walk from this condo to College or Piedmont Aves. Sunny, top-floor unit owned by a renowned young composer. Hardwood floors, office area, other elegant touches.

Jim Schubert 339.4000~517.4022

CASTRO VALLEY HILLS \$895,000

5394 ELAINE COURT

This 4+BR/3ba California Rancher is graced with a terrific floor plan, formal living room, cooks' kitchen, family room, formal dining room, and game rm! 11,000+ sq ft lot with gorgeous yards and pool!

Nahid Nassiri 339.8400~339.4550

LAFAYETTE \$869,000

3159 MARYOLA CT

Charming 3BR/2ba house located at a quiet cul-de-sac w/ beautiful view all around. Master bedrm, sunny level yard, English style landscaped back yard. Close to school & freeway.

A.D. Nassiri 339.4000~899.6313

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$739,000

3081 GUIDO STREET

Price reduced \$60K! Spacious 3/2, over 2300sf, w/ expansion potential. Serene wooded views, extra lg lot, quiet street. View home at:

EarleShenken.com 339.4000~220.6407

OAK KNOLL \$745,000

3660 CALAFIA

Remod 3Br/2.5ba Contemp Tudor. Ctr/au pair w/ separate entry, HW, FP in LR, 4-car garage, large landscaped yard w/ patio & play area.

Ken Nwokedi 899.6333~485.5119

DIMOND (UPPER) \$699,000

3836 LYMAN ROAD

Spacious home w/ many upgrades, large kitchen, family room & huge back yard. See photos at:

PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400~482.9000

DIMOND \$599,000

3047 BERLIN WAY

Duplex w/ 2bd/1ba & 1bd/1ba pm 5280 sq ft lot. Fireplace in lvg rm, HWF's, skylights. Great area, located in the Dimond District.

Ken Nwokedi 899.6333~485.5119

MAXWELL PARK \$549,000

2606 KINGSLAND

Many improvements. Exceptional mixed use investment oppy. Three 2br/1ba units + commercial space.

Tom Watson 339.8400~899.6364

WEST OAKLAND \$550,000

1785-1787-9TH STREET

Gorgeous Victorian duplex. Tastefully remodeled. New int/ext paint, HWF's, carpeted flr, granite counters, SS appliances. Plans to expand!

Ken Nwokedi 899.6320~485.5110

OAKLAND \$375,000

2008-88TH AVENUE

2bd/1ba. Living/dining rm combo. Sunny & spacious kitchen w/ new cabinets. Hardwood floors under the carpet, laundry rm, off-street parking, buyer can re-build the garage.

Ken Nwokedi 339.4000~485.5119

COMING SOON

MONTCLAIR \$1,100,000

1029 AQUARIUS

Wonderful Montclair home on quiet lane. Close to Village with level garden. 3bd/3.5ba, family room.

Mary Jane McConville 339.8400~339.4280

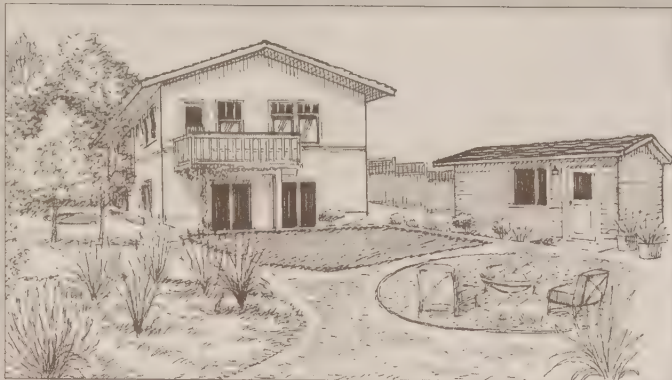
COMMERCIAL

OAKLAND \$735,000

9301 BANCROFT AVENUE

Real Estate Focus:

Albany Hill home lovingly restored



IMAGINE A HOME WITH EXCELLENT BONES but not truly livable for today's modern family. Visualize a tastefully designed and beautifully executed renovation. The result is the remarkable home at 717 Madison St., Albany. Not just a typical makeover, this is a lovingly completed restoration combined with a superbly done expansion. Where classic details have been lost to earlier efforts, they have been put back where they belong. Where altogether new rooms were created, they have been masterfully blended with the feel and style of the original home. The result is not a glossy redo, but a striking, highly livable home with an authentic feel. From the thoughtfully relocated front door to the park-like spacious backyard this home is a place to genuinely live and grow. Now with two levels, a stunning master bedroom suite and a fabulous new chef's kitchen all done by Bee Renovated in a fashion that would make the original builders of this home proud.

Price: \$799,000.

Listing agent: Anita Thede, Northbrae Properties, 510-526-4336 or www.northbrae.com.

Reverse mortgages: Godsend or curse?

BY JACK NAUDI
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

ST. LOUIS — Oliver Dusen, 82, was at his wits' end late last year, staring at a future where he and his 79-year-old wife, Yvonne, would lose their home in Affton, Mo.

Inflation had pushed prices to the point that their Social Security and pension couldn't keep up with their expenses.

"There was more going out than coming in," Dusen said. "We decided we would have to leave the house and move into a (nursing) home, which neither of us wanted to do."

But the Dusens are still in their home, the beneficiaries of what Oliver calls a "godsend." Mortgage bankers call it a reverse mortgage.

Despite being around for more than two decades, reverse mortgages are little-known tools that can help older people stay in their homes as bills mount and incomes stagnate.

They're also little understood, with a too-good-to-be-true aspect that invites skepticism.

Available only to people age 62 or older, reverse mortgages let homeowners turn what is likely their

biggest asset, a house, into a cash machine.

Under a traditional mortgage, a homeowner gets a loan and sends a monthly mortgage check to a lender. Under a reverse mortgage, a lender typically sends a monthly check to homeowners for some period of time.

"It comes into play when you're an elderly person who needs cash flow," said Jim Blair, a principal at Moneta Group, a financial planning firm in Clayton, Mo. "It's the last pile of equity. ... It can be a life saver."

When the owners die, or when the home is sold, the bank collects the principal that it paid to the homeowners, plus accrued interest.

"Our research tells us the vast majority of people want to stay in their homes and never leave," said Bronwyn Bellinger, a reverse mortgage specialist for the AARP Foundation. "A reverse mortgage is an important tool that seniors can look into to do that."

But the vast majority of seniors don't give them a second thought.

A recent study by the National Council on the Aging estimates that the most popular reverse mortgage program has been used by only

about 100,000 households in 1999.

The study estimates that more than 13.2 million households are eligible candidates for a reverse mortgage, and \$953 billion would be available.

The council identifies the costs as the most urgent issue that could be addressed through reverse mortgages.

Nearly 10 million seniors hold face health problems worth \$700 billion would be available to those seniors.

"Almost all of my clients have a health care issue or an issue because they ran out of cash," said a reverse mortgage banker at the Mortgage Co. in Creve Coeur.

Paramount is among the largest of St. Louis-based lenders offering reverse mortgages. The market is so small, many stay away from them.

Indeed, a single California Financial Freedom, has more than 50 percent of its

See REVERSE Page 3

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries

FOR THE PUBLIC

Inform Alameda

The public is always welcome at the Inform Meeting. The Inform is sponsored by the Alameda Association of Realtors. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month. The focus is an invited speaker and the discussion of important topics. The Inform helps realtors stay informed about the market, the community and the economy. Agents bring information on new listings for presentation. For ticket information contact Kristin McMahan of AAR at 510-523-7229.

Free Classes

Prepare Now. Attend "Be Prepared! Making A Personal Disaster Plan," presented by Pat Colburn of Kane & Associates and Monica Balerio of the City of Alameda. This free course is 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 7 at Redwood Square in Alameda. Make reservations by calling 510-865-3460.

Public Service. Police officers, nurses, firefighters and teachers are there for our communities when needed. Frequently these helpers cannot afford to buy a home. A seminar, "First Homes: Helping The Helpers" is 7 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 10. To learn more call 888-681-7771 ext. 707.

How To. Learn how much home you can afford, how to qualify for a loan and why you need a Realtor, at "Buying Your First Home." The free seminar is 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 11, at Gallagher & Lindsey in Alameda. Each attendee receives a free credit analysis. Make a reservation by calling 510-865-4192 ext. 300.

Loan Training. Become a loan officer. REA Mortgage offers a loan officer training class. The next class is 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 12. For a bay area location call loan manager Mae Aquino at 510-326-8971.

Home Keys. "Keys To Homeownership" is a workshop presented by Bette Barr of Alameda Realty and Anton Mares of Chase Manhattan Mortgage. Learn about no down payment programs, maximizing your buying power and strategies for homebuying. To register e-mail AntonH.Mares@JPM-Chase.com.

One Stop Service

Consumers can get one-stop service on the Prudential California Realty Web site. You can be pre-approved for a loan, obtain relocation help and get selling tips. Check it out at www.Prudential.com.

NEIGHBORLY

Realtor magazine's sixth Good Neighbor Awards ceremony was held at the 2005 Realtors Conference & Expo in October. The Good Neighbor Award winners are Realtors who have made an extraordinary commitment to improving the quality of life in their communities through volunteer work. This year, five winners will receive \$7,500 grants for their cause.

A few of the past winners are names you might recognize. A winner in 2000 was Oakland Association of Realtors member Oral Lee Brown. James Pacheco of the Bay East Association of Realtors was a 2003 winner. And the Berkeley Association of Realtors boasts one of last year's winners, Diane Mintz. Pretty impressive considering that in 5 years there were 25 winners from all over the country and three were from the East Bay. For more details call 800-874-6500.

HOMESTAGE

"Staging A House For Sale" is presented by Bethany St. Clair of St. Clair Organize And Design. Home staging can bring more sale dollars and a quicker sale. Check on class dates and tuition information at bmajorstclair@yahoo.com or by calling 510-304-4264.

GOT LISTING?

Are you frustrated by losing listings? Do you need a formal presentation? Attend the "Listing Presentation Class," presented by veteran business coach and trainer Kitty Cole. Cole teaches how to create personal listing presentation and marketing plan. This program is viable for agents of all experience levels. Get the confidence you need to get the listing. For a date and location near you call 925-254-1900 or send e-mail to Kittybiz@aol.com.

E-DIRECTORY

Improve your business with goods and services meant personally for you. Check out vendor listings at the NAR Supplier E-Directory. This online Yellow Pages-type



BOBBIE REID
Credit Worthy

directory includes product and vendor contact information. To access the directory go to www.realtor.org/eDirectory.

CALLBACK SAFETY

The National Association of Realtors is pleased to announce the first safety product for improving Realtor safety, Mobile Callback. Realtors receive pre-arranged calls on their mobile phones to monitor their location and well-being. This system is helpful at open houses and showings. Anyone that spends time with people they don't know, as part of their business can use this product to provide a higher level of safety. To order Mobile Callback or find out more visit mobilecallback.com.

TIDBITS

A must read is Oakland Realtor Oral Lee Brown's new book, The Promise: How One Woman Made Good On Her Extraordinary Pact To Send A Classroom Of First-Graders To College. This is the story of Brown's promise to 23 inner-city children that began in 1987. Hear the story of Brown's own life, from her childhood in the south to the most recent years in Oakland. In 1999, all her "babies" graduated from high school. 19 of those students chose to go on to college. She continues her work today with four new classes. The Promise is published by Doubleday and available in local bookstores.

The new JCP Property Reports Regional Sales Consultant is Debra Beck. Beck is also a Women's Council of Realtors member. Welcome her by calling 800-748-5233.

TELL ME

Tell me about it! Fund-raisers, meetings, workshops, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an email to bobbierid@mind-spring.com.

Retirement planning can be simple

There are many retirement plan alternatives available for small business owners and their employees. One option is the Simple IRA, which is available for organizations such as sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations and non-profit organizations. Unlike many retirement plans, there are guidelines the company must meet to participate in a Simple IRA plan. To help you better understand this plan, here are the answers to some commonly asked questions:

Can any employer establish a Simple IRA plan? Any organization with 100 or fewer employees, each earning at least \$5,000 in the preceding year, may establish and maintain a Simple IRA. However, the organization cannot maintain any other employer-sponsored retirement plan to which contributions are made or accrued during the calendar year in which the Simple IRA is effective.

Which employees are eligible to participate in these types of plans? All employees who received at least \$5,000 in compensation from the employer in any of the last two calendar years and who are reasonably expected to receive at least \$5,000 in the current year are eligible for participation. The employer is able to elect in the plan's initial agreement to reduce the amount of compensation and the number of years required. However, there is no required participation for this plan, so not all eligible employees must participate and contribute to the plan.

How much can employees contribute to the plan through salary deferral? For 2005, the limit for salary deferral contributions is \$10,000. After 2005, the contribution limit will be adjusted periodically in \$500 increments to account for inflation. Can employees aged 50 or older make catch-up contributions? Yes. An employee or owner aged 50 or older can make a \$2,000 catch-up contribution for 2005. Is it mandatory for the employer to make a contribution? Yes. Employers must contribute to the plan and all contributions are immediately vested. The employer must also select a contribution formula from two choices: matching contributions or non-matching contributions. If the employer selects the matching contribution formula, a dollar-for-dollar matching contribution up to three percent of an employee's compensation can be made into the employee's account. With the non-matching formula, the employer would make a contribution of two percent of compensation for each eligible employee to the employee's account, even if the employee does not make salary deferral contributions.

Regardless of the contribution alternative chosen, employers must notify their employees 60 days in advance of the plan year. If the employer fails to notify the employees and continues to operate the plan, the employer must use the three percent match alternative and may be subject to IRS penalties. When does the employer need to establish and fund the plan for this year? To make tax-deductible contributions for the current year, the em-

ployer must establish the plan by October 1. In addition, employers may make Simple IRA contributions up to the due date of the business tax returns, including extensions.

How are withdrawals from Simple IRAs taxed? Withdrawals from a Simple IRA are taxed as ordinary income. However, if a younger than age 59½ withdrawal from a Simple IRA within the first two years of participation, he or she will incur IRS penalty and ordinary taxes on the amount withdrawn.

Can the assets in a Simple IRA be rolled over? Participants are able to roll over funds from one Simple IRA to another anytime. After the plan participation, participants roll assets from a Simple IRA into a traditional IRA without penalties.

As with any investment, you should consult your financial consultant to evaluate the best option for your specific situation. Leila Gough is an investment advisor with A. G. Edwards & Sons, a member SIPC. She can be reached at 510-452-8060.

LEILA GOUGH
Money Matters

Repairing pitted, flaked concrete

BY ALAN J. HEAVENS
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Q: Is there a material I can use to repair concrete that has pitted and flaked? My steps were poured

REAL ESTATE Q&A

just before a rain, which dripped on them. The concrete quickly flaked away, forming large and ugly spots on the treads and the edges.

It's been a couple of years, so certainly the steps must be ready for repair by now. I'd like to do something that looks good and doesn't really look like a patch job.

A: It sounds to me as if just a repair won't do it. I've tried similar repairs over the years with a variety of products, and although the fixes have looked OK for a little while,

they have not endured. It's like patching a roof that really should be replaced — you're simply delaying the inevitable. I'd suggest tearing the steps out and starting over.

Q: We need to have someone put in a four-inch drainpipe from a well on our property, underneath the neighboring property and through to a creek, about 60 feet. The well

now has a pipe running to the land and draining into the creek. We have contacted the town and they've sent someone up plans to see if it's possible. It is. The person drawn the plans does not work and suggested that we

See HEAVENS, Page 3

The Weekly Sales can be found in the Auto Section on page D4.

BAY AREA BERKELEY PROPERTIES
Creating Connections for You Where Integrity and Experience Count!
\$2.2M 6 units
1033bdms 1.5 ba / 302bdms 1.5 ba
1257 Francisco Street Berkeley.
Super looking for an investment Opportunity! Bring your friends and purchase this 6 unit property with the potential to convert in to tenants in Common so you each may own a townhome!

727 Coventry Road, Kensington
2 bed + 1 ba
OPEN SUN 2-4 **\$675,000**

Bay Area Berkeley Properties
1400 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley 94709
(510) 840-0010 Fax: (510) 848-1013

VALVA REALTY PRESENTS

123 Pershing Dr., Oakland

Rare Pershing Drive listing. Panoramic Bay View from virtually every room in the house. Formal living room, dining room, kitchen nook, secluded patio, wet bar, and full-length deck. Walk to Montclair Village.

Priced at: \$1,200,000

Paul Valva, Valva Realty Company
(510) 287-2383

Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed

PACIFIC UNION
OMAC Real Estate Services

Open Sunday 2-5

15 Slater Lane, Berkeley, CA 94705

SF Bay Views
Above the Claremont Hills

- 3+ BR/2 BA
- In-law with sep entrance
- Private Setting

\$899,000

Julie Nachtwey
www.julienachtwey.com
510.540.8743

Click: The new sound of house hunting

number 499 in a series of true homes in real estate. These days on the Internet, agents, neighbors and buyers are simply curious to see on the screen before, and instead of, seeing houses in person. They probably see many more of the way than they used to. I know that everyday I sit at my computer and an hour looking at new listings, many of which are posted on the Internet.

One in North Berkeley, the stucco bungalow, the outdoors in good shape. Click. room furnished, stone look drapes on windows. Click. room has been staged. Click. light fixture, nice. Click.

Like the kitchen was re-done in 1960, lots of orange, and an electric cooktop. Next. a fairly fast way for buyers agents to narrow the possibilities. Not all can pay \$700,000. If you want to live in the city, you probably aren't looking at Hayward. Families of 6 are likely to buy a one bedroom house and outdoor space are great. And a photo of the front yard gives some indication as to what the house is like beyond the door. It is useful to know when houses are built and in what style.

This information and more is available on multiple listing and can be learned from a newspaper. What I'm wondering is whether having lots of photos of the interior is a good thing. I find that I'm visiting fewer houses in person these days. It has become common for list-

ings to be accompanied by pictures of the living and dining rooms, kitchen and bedrooms, one each taken from the doorways. Plus a shot of the yard. Sometimes on websites there is a slide show or even a video. The photographer stands in the center of the house and turns in a circle, makes a 360 degree video. Sometimes there is background music. These ads are offered in the hope that viewers will be sufficiently impressed by what they see that they will make a personal visit to the house.

But I find just the opposite. The more photos I'm shown, the fewer houses I visit. Each week I look at the agent tour and select which houses we will go to see. Last week on the Thursday tour 160 houses were being held open. Which dozen or so shall we visit?

"Not this one," I say to Anet as I look at photos on my computer. "We've seen that house." Sometimes I mean that we've seen similar houses built about the same time with approximately the same layout and detailing. But more often I see no reason to go in person because I'm no longer curious. I already know too much.

Maybe that's OK. I doubt that many people are buying houses without visiting them. After viewing numerous houses on line, selections are made, and people go in person to see.

Anet and I have people come to our open houses all the time who know quite a bit about our listing before they get there. Sometimes they even have our flyer in hand; they've printed it out from our website. These people have designated our listing as one they might want to buy. They can afford the price, it seems to meet their needs in terms

of size and amenities, location and outdoor space. That's why they have shown up to see it in person: to confirm their interest.

And it does turn out right much of the time. The buyer first saw the house on-line. He visited, liked what he experienced, and he bought. Proof that the system works. But I wonder what houses he didn't go to see, ones he crossed off his list because he looked at the photos and decided never mind. Some houses, I know from experience, are more photogenic than others.

I keep albums of photos of all of our listings. It's interesting to me that many of my favorite houses, ones that I so enjoyed being in and dreamed about living in, don't look that good in photographs. Often as not, I look at the photos and think something like this: this room looked so much more beautiful than it looks here. Something about the light and the textures. I can remember what it was like by looking at the photo but the photo doesn't do it justice.

And sometimes it's the opposite: This room looks great in this picture but not so much when you're standing inside it.

I know that I react positively to good proportions in rooms, whether the rooms are large or quite small. The placement of windows and their construction makes a huge difference in a room, as well as views and light from those windows. Porches, screen doors, trellises, too.

A folded ceiling with shadows from the yellowing tree next door. Old, turning wooden stairs to an attic space. New, exactly-right-shade gray walls with navy blue porcelain bath fixtures.

Some houses just feel good inside. They have some indefinable



TARPOFF AND TALBERT
Team Experience

something that makes me want to stay, something words cannot describe. Some houses I would like to spend my life in have a feeling, a comfort, something like a love pat on my arm from someone who cares about me.

I don't think any of these can be conveyed in computer photos.

I take the snapshots of our listings that I keep in albums. These are just for record keeping. Anet is our real photographer. She takes many different views for possible placement on our website and she spends hours poring over them before deciding which ones to use.

As she works at it, and this happens every time with every house, I tell her not to show everything. I'm hoping that people will look at the pictures but will still be curious. I want them to come to the house, to feel themselves what the spaces, the air, the feeling is like.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpo are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 653-2050 and at www.tarpoandtalbert.com.

**PLEASE RECYCLE
THIS NEWSPAPER.**

POSTCARD HISTORY SERIES

Oakland

all "Big City" Oakland, California.

Annet Allen

Picture postcard perfect

ARCADIA PUBLICATIONS
Oakland Tours program coordinator Annet Allen, has created an entertaining narrative to accompany views from the collection of Edmund Clausen, a retired Oakland firefighter and current president of the Alameda Historical Society.

Allen created a tour through Oakland's past by selecting 230 from the more than 6,000 views Clausen has amassed of his hometown since he began collecting postcards in 1978.

See PERFECT, Page B5

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Country living in the city! Located in the Piedmont Hills, this gorgeous home has magnificent views over the trees to the hills. This fabulous large home has three levels and includes five bedrooms, four and one half baths, family room, billiard room, play room, work-out room plus a beautiful pool and deck. Updated kitchen and baths.

Offered at \$1,950,000

the GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

70 Somerset Road, Piedmont

ELIZABETH DICKSON
Office: 510.339.0400/218
dickson@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Stunning Upper Rockridge townhome. Sunny, private, remodeled kitchen and baths, hardwood floors, French doors onto decks. Attached car garage, pool, close to transportation at Village Market. Clarewood's very finest.

Offered at \$659,000

the GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

95 Clarewood Lane
Upper Rockridge

CAROLYN JONES
Office: 510.652.2133/439
cjones@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A rare and splendid property in the Claremont hills. This wonderful home was designed by Edwin Snyder in 1935 and the gardens were designed by Thomas Church. Every detail is impeccable and the Bay views are magnificent. There are four bedrooms, one and one half baths and a very comfortable reading library.

Offered at \$1,750,000

the GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

223 Stonewall Road
Berkeley

BEBE McRAE
Office: 510.652.2133/415
bmcrae@grubbco.com



6850 Exeter Drive, Oakland
Open Sunday 2-4:30pm



Commanded by picturesque SF/Bay and wooded hillside views, this exceptionally spacious 3+bedroom, 2.5bathroom Piedmont Pines property offers the best of both family living and entertaining. Complicated open floor plan, vaulted ceilings, picture windows, hardwood floors, and updates throughout. Enjoy every nuance from the formal entry, master room with fireplace, gourmet kitchen, oversized bedrooms and exceptional master suite. Gorgeous landscaped yards are accentuated by the level landscaping paths, sauna, deck access and incredible views!

Asking Price \$1,195,000

Visit my website at www.NahidNassiri.com

Nahid Nassiri
"Your Best Move"
510.339.4550 direct
510.339.8400 office



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Chic and elegant urban retreat! Quality renovations, stunning decor and views of the Bay make this an ideal home for those with a busy lifestyle! Tucked away in a quiet cul-de-sac, this home is just a stone's throw away from Montclair Village and all other conveniences.

Offered at \$1,895,000

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM



51 Lane Court
Piedmont Side of Montclair

ANGELA WEI GRUBB
Office: 510.339.0400/202
awgrubb@grubbco.com

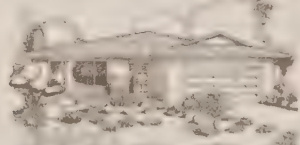


open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. One level living at its finest! This beautifully remodeled and upgraded three bedroom, two bath home has light and airy, spacious rooms and an inviting floor plan.

View a photo tour at johnandjudith.com
Offered at \$849,000

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

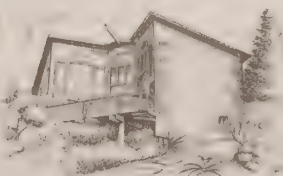


293 Grizzly Peak Boulevard
Kensington

JOHN & JUDITH RATCLIFFE
Office: 652.2133/429
johnandjudith@grubbco.com



17066 Broadway Terrace
Sunday, 1-5 P.M.



A Retreat! 1" time on market. City and GG views. Follow wooden stepped garden path to a beautifully designed and well maintained home. The tile, posts, beams and clear Douglas Fir trim give this home pride-of-ownership. Natural morning light in the kitchen. Afternoon light cascades deck and living room.

Offered at \$ 990,000



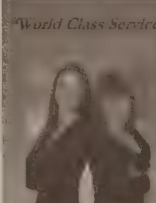
Michael Gallagher
RE/MAX
(510) 339-6329 Direct
(510) 339-8400 Office
(510) 339-8490 Fax
Email:michaelg@bhmh.com

COMING SOON IN MONTCLAIR



Warm and wonderful on a quiet lane near the village with a lovely garden and level lawn. This fine home offers 3 bedrooms and 3 and one-half baths plus a family room with woodburning stove. The living room features a fireplace and gleaming hardwood floors with the adjacent dining room opening to spacious deck overlooking the newly landscaped garden. Situated in the gentle Montclair hills yet central to the main shopping district with its weekly farmer's market, transportation routes, parks and schools, you'll find peace of mind and a carefree lifestyle awaits you here. Don't wait. Call for more information today!

Offered for
\$1,100,000



Mary Jane McConville
Shannon Klatt

510-339-4280 Direct
On the web at
www.MaryJaneMcConville.com

Perfect

FROM PAGE B3

"Oakland became a transportation and industrial hub in the late 19th century as its oak-studded ranches and fruit orchards evolved into urban neighborhoods," Clausen said.

"Just as the postcard was born at the 1893 Chicago Columbian Exposition, Oakland began its transformation into a major city."

As postcards grew in popularity, Oakland grew astride, led by two ambitious mayors, Frank K. Mott and John L. Davis. Mott, a proponent of the "City Beautiful" movement, fostered the creation of grand boulevards and imposing civic buildings, while his successor Davis oversaw expansion of the port, a regional parks system, and one of the first commercial airports in the nation.

The book features Oakland's building boom that followed the 1906 earthquake and Lake Merritt,

the largest salt water lake within a city.

Allen will join fellow Arcadia Publishing authors Don Hausler and Greta Dutcher at the Pardee Home Museum, 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, 672 Eleventh St. Hausler wrote "Emeryville" and Dutcher, "Alameda." For more information, call 510-444-2187.

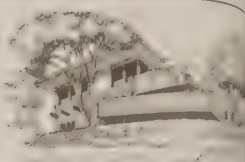
Allen will also be at Diesel Books, 5433 College Ave. in Oakland, 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 16. Call 510-653-9965.

sold sold

Originally listed for \$825,000.

Our buyers are relocating here from the East Coast and are thrilled about their new home.

For more information, please give us a call or log onto our website www.fordplowright.com.



79 Florida Avenue, Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

FORD/PLOWRIGHT
510.652.2133/471
GRUBBCO.COM

ANJA PLOWRIGHT
510.593.8376



COLETTE FORD
510.823.5735

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A well-maintained and updated three bedroom, two bath Mediterranean home in Crocker Highlands. Great upstairs floor plan with an updated eat-in kitchen opens to a covered outdoor porch. The large back garden has mature trees, is beautifully landscaped and features a level entertainment patio with access from the very attractive, newly added family room.

Offered at \$739,000



1515 Holman Road
Crocker Highlands

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

ANTHONY RIGGINS
Office: 510.339.0400/282
ariggins@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Entrancing early classic William Wurster cottage (c. 1930), very private with charming entry courtyard. Two bedrooms, one bath, with signature living room/dining "great" room bathed in light, with bay views. Private side porch and back garden access from the kitchen and breakfast room. Excellent access to Campus. Fresh and lovely - very special!

Call for price



904 Regal Road, Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
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TRICIA SWIFT
Office: 510.339.0400/333
tsswift@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Well located in Upper Rockridge, this two bedroom home offers significant privacy, plantation shutters and hardwood floors. Beautiful kitchen and bath. Large rumpus with fireplace. Artist studio/office. Hillcrest School.

Offered at \$739,000



5655. Alonzo Avenue
Upper Rockridge

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

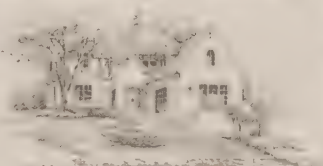
ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS
Office: 510.339.0400/217
tunney@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Designed by architect Miller Warneke, this exceptional home offers four bedrooms, three baths and a family room opening to a level garden.

Offered at \$1,350,000



1871 Trestle Glen Road
Piedmont

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

LINDA MCCLAIN
Office: 510.339.0400/226
mcclain@grubbco.com



★ ★ ROCKRIDGE LISTING! ★ ★ ★ ★ Open House - Sunday, November 6th 1-5pm ★ ★



3 Bedrooms & 1 Bathroom
5387 Belgrave Place
Offered @ \$739,000

Wonderful Mediterranean Bungalow in Rockridge

This stylish Mediterranean Bungalow is full of charm with a very open and sunny interior. Your first glimpse of this home lets you know it is special - beautiful garden, big friendly front porch and nice architectural detailing. Inside, the home continues to get better and better with 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. Hardwood wood floors, built-ins, fireplace and very cool "period" style eat-in kitchen, and lovely bathroom really set this home apart. The formal living room and dining room are both very spacious and the designer colors throughout are beautiful. With a partial basement, detached garage, and sunny backyard this home is a real joy. If schools are important, then you are in luck as this home is in the highly desirable Chabot Elementary District.

This home is located on a great street in Rockridge and is close to all the College Avenue shops and many fine restaurants, Market Hall, BART, Freeways, Casual Carpooling to SF, Berkeley, Downtown Oakland, Emeryville, and Great Coffee. As a bonus, Piedmont Avenue is just a few short blocks away as is the historic hustle and bustle of Temescal.



Ron Kriss, Broker
510-547-5970 Ext 55 ronkriss@jps.net

ONLINE TOUR @ www.5387Belgrave.Com

First Time On The Market In Over 40 Years



Open Sunday
November 6th & 7th
1451 Marin Avenue
Asking \$949,000

Hard to find 4++ bedroom, 2 bath Albany home on a large lot. Spacious sun filled rooms... Living room with built-ins and coed ceiling, formal dining room w/box beam ceilings, built-in hutch with leaded glass doors. Gracious staircase w/generous landing. Two plus rooms, huge basement interior access from garage to house. One block from Solano Ave. shops & restaurants.

Ann Arriola Platt
510.527.2700 Office

Marvin Gardens Real Estate

822 Santa Barbara Road • Berkeley

Quintessential Brown Shingle home on large lot w/ creek. Designed by Carr Jones in 1912. Sweeping Bay, Golden Gate and San Francisco views from two floors. 5+ bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3 fireplaces, remodeled gourmet kitchen with granite counters, slate floor and copper sink. Very comfortable 3,693 sq. ft. of living space. (Scenes of the movie "The Insider" were shot at this house.) Offered at \$1,750,000



Catherine Krueger
510.559.2916
CatherineKrueger@marvingardens.com

Open 2:00-4:00
Sunday, Nov. 6th

marvin gardens



Don't miss the Open Home Guide on page B



3433 Morningside Dr.
\$524,900

For showing, call today!

Stephanie Newman 510.860.9070

KELLER WILLIAMS.

El Sobrante

Complete remodel and updated home! 3/1.5, 1122 sq. ft., large backyard for entertaining, quiet neighborhood, hardwood floors.

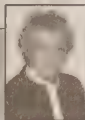


22 Mesa Avenue
Piedmont



OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Located on a gorgeous street-lined street in central Piedmont, this home offers five spacious bedrooms, and beautiful original detailing throughout. The light-filled kitchen-family room opens up to a lovely garden for easy entertaining.

Offered at \$2,690,000



JEAN SIMMONS
510.339.0400/201
simmons@grubbco.com

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ANIAN TUNNEY
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HILLS NEWSPAPERS REAL ESTATE & HOME



Call in subscribe: 1-800-558-4637

BY APPOINTMENT



32 JEROME AVENUE
PIEDMONT

Exquisite Mediterranean in a tranquil setting. Four bedrooms plus au pair suite. Beautifully updated kitchen/sun room level out to spacious backyard and garden.

Offered at \$1,350,000

Terri Bates Walker, Real Estate Broker
510-282-4420
photo tour at walkersrealty.com



Glenview Charm

New Listing! First time on market in over 40 years. Conveniently located near all shops, this early Traditional has a great 3/1+ floor plan with lovely Architectural details. A feel good environment and gardener's delight combine for a sense of perfection for entertaining or quiet relaxation.

Offered at: \$690,000



Prudential
California Realty

Kriss "Krissto" Makris
(510) 339-9290 Office
(925) 250-4079 Cell

Big. Deal.

\$3,048/mo* Principal and Interest



Move-in ready for the holidays: traditional single-family homes priced from the \$700,000s

Room to grow: Soaring space and elegant design combine at this collection of luxury residences. Homes feature stunning exteriors in Normandy, Queen Anne, Cottage and Georgian styles, and are situated on exceptionally large sites that average over 8,000 square feet. Located on the upscale east side of Tracy, Rosewood Estates gives your family room to grow.

Tracy Location
Single-family Homes
3-5 Bedrooms
Up to 3,679 sq. ft.
Open daily 10-5; Wed. 1-5
(209) 834-1031



Rosewood Estates

*Example Sales Price: \$818,500; First mortgage loan amount \$654,800; Second mortgage loan amount of \$81,850; Down Payment \$81,850.

First mortgage is a 30-year 80% adjustable rate mortgage (ARM), 5.50% interest rate; APR 6.4239% (APR is subject to increase after 12 months). The first year payment is \$2,587.25 bought down from \$3,717.88. The second year payment \$2,940.34 bought down from \$3,717.88. The third year payment is \$3,317.78 bought down from \$3,717.88. The fourth through fifth year payment is \$3,717.88. The sixth through tenth year payment and interest may adjust annually. These payments include principal and interest. The \$81,850

10% LTV, adjustable rate (ARM) second mortgage is a home equity line of credit (HELOC), 6.75% interest rate, 18% maximum APR. The initial APR is subject to increase after closing. The introductory interest rate of 6.75% and interest-only payment of \$460.41 is fixed for the first three months. The HELOC is structured with a 5-year draw period and a 15-year amortized repayment period. The payments during the draw period are equal to the interest that is due. The payments (principal and interest) and interest rate may adjust monthly through the full term of the loan. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Pulte Mortgage LLC is licensed by the Department of Corporations under the CA Residential Mortgage Lending Act. An Equal Housing Lender. Approximate square footage; map not to scale

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Truth behind the housing bubble — is froth

BY ALAN J. HEAVENS
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

A couple of weeks back, I was having lunch with some real estate industry folks when one of them, a developer, asked me why the media were so focused on the "bubble."

"You know," he said, "the more you talk about something, the more likely it is to become a self-fulfilling prophecy." The developer quickly added that he did not believe in the bubble.

That afternoon, I was channel-surfing and landed on Fox News, where a few of the shouting heads were suggesting that the bubble was, in fact, simply a creation of the media.

I'm not sure who these experts were — the cable news shows must be collaring people in suits at bus stops to keep their schedules filled. I watched for the whole six minutes of discussion and still couldn't figure out how they came to the media-conspiracy conclusion. Since they were on TV, where everything is right and true all the time, they probably knew what they were talking about.

A couple of days later, a broker I know faxed me something about an entrepreneur who had been making lots of money with his "Mr. Housing Bubble" T-shirt. Somewhere down the page was a quote by a real estate expert I know who contended that the bubble idea was invented by stockbrokers trying to scare real estate investors back into the stock market.

At first, I thought it was really funny, until I repeated it to two people whom I consider so level-headed that I'd be willing to balance glassware on them. Both replied that they wouldn't be surprised if that were true.

Think of a problem, and there's a matching conspiracy theory. Look at the number of people who thought "The X-Files" was fact-based, who believe that the folks on "Gilligan's Island" remain stranded, and — well, you name the difficulty and there's got to be someone or some group causing it.

Have the stockbrokers been influencing the media to fabricate a bubble? You can believe it or not. I'll admit I don't, not being a big believer in conspiracies. But I promise that if I'm wrong, I'll be the first to

acknowledge it.

No matter how much we try to look at residential real estate as a national phenomenon, it remains local, or at the most regional. California and the Middle Atlantic are both on coasts, but there are different economic and social factors affecting how and where housing is built, bought and sold there.

It's not the same everywhere. Between 1995 and 2000, the dot-com boom propelled residential development in San Francisco. Vacant buildings either became residential lofts or housed dot-com companies, which gave the landlords — who spent their own money retrofitting warehouses and factories to the needs of computer geekdom — stock options instead of rent.

Few of these Web creatures made money, a flaw that finally proved fatal when, in April 2000, investors looking for some return began pulling their money out of tech

See FROTH, Page B7



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Heavens

FROM PAGE B2

work and suggested that we needed a "site contractor" for it.

What is that? I can't find anything in the Yellow Pages or Google. Is there another name for those who do this type of work?

A: They're known as drainage contractors, and they are listed as such in the Yellow Pages. Make sure the firm is licensed to work in your township, and that it is well-known to the building officials. It will make inspections and the permit process go easier.

Q: We purchased a Mastercraft house built in 1929. The living room has a brick fireplace with little character. The bricks are colorless and flat-looking, and the mortar is too white.

We'd seen on a recent house tour a wall where plaster had been removed and the exposed brick was varnished. The effect was striking. I'd like to put some color into the brick and tone down the mortar. Can you tell me how this is done?

A: By changing the fireplace, will you be creating something that violates the architectural integrity of the house? My house, built in the same year, has a simple brick fireplace with a thick white, wooden mantel that is nothing to write home about but that fits the style and period.

If you're not compromising the house's style, or if it doesn't matter to you, then I suggest picking up these two books, both by Creative Homeowner Press and likely available at Amazon.com or the bookstore. The first, "What's in Style: Fireplaces," is by Joanne Still (\$12.95); the second, "Masonry" (\$19.95), lists no author.

Then hire a masonry contractor to do the work, but provide complete instructions; otherwise, you may not get exactly what you want.

By the way, with natural-gas prices rising, I highly recommend using gas fireplaces only occasionally this winter. It is better to get your furnace tuned to tip-top condition instead and to start checking windows, doors and insulation to make sure that the house is tight, but not too tight. You need proper air exchange to maintain good indoor air quality.

Have questions for Alan J. Heavens? Send them to The Philadelphia Inquirer, Box 8263, 400 N. Broad St., Philadelphia 19101 or aheavens@phillynews.com. Heavens is the author of "What No One Ever Tells You About Renovating Your Home," published by Dearborn Trade.

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Ann Sacks tile, walnut veneers, ebony stained floors, Italian porcelain tile, and top decking. Luxurious finishes from a double fireplace to a sleek elevator that services all three floors.

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39 DEL MAR AVENUE
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Bay View Home!

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gross domestic product. Given how far out of line house prices have grown from fundamentals, Baker said, there is no way to avoid enormous economic damage when the bubble collapses. However, the sooner house prices

drop, the less damage there will be. Or not.

Alan J. Heavens is the real estate columnist for The Philadelphia Inquirer. His e-mail is aheavens@phillynews.com.

Contact the real estate editor at 510-748-1655 or e-mail devanosky@cctimes.com.

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2BR 2BA approx. 1248 sq. ft., bonus rm, fireplace, large lot, huge family rm w/cathedral ceilings, great yard w/fruit trees. #40121880
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Open Homes



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Quintessential 5+BR/3.5 bath brown shingle designed by Carr Jones in 1912. Stunning, sweeping Bay, Golden Gate & SF views from 2 floors. Very comfortable 3,693 sq. ft. living. Scenes of the movie "The Insider" were shot inside & in front. Lg lot w/ creek, 3 fireplaces, kitchen remodeled w/granite, slate & copper.
822 Santa Barbara Rd. Open Sun 2-4:30
Catherine Krueger 527-9111



Berkeley \$1,100,000
Best of All Worlds-Enjoy the sunsets while eating dinner on the dining room deck, admire the city lights in the evening from the master bedroom deck. Eat informally in the breakfast room & formally in the dining room. Entertain in the living room, play in the rumpus room. Stroll to Solano Ave. Enjoy the charm & comfort of this 4 BR/2.5 BA home
650 Colusa Ave. Open Sun 2-4
www.KathieBerg.com



Kensington \$1,075,000
Gracious, exquisitely appointed, recently expanded and dramatically transformed 3+BR, 3-bath home. Situated on a quiet tree-lined street, with an inviting park-like garden, this sun-filled home features a new gourmet kitchen, master bedroom suite, large family room, office, deck & patio. Over 2,700 sq. ft.
312 Rugby Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30
Todd Hodson & Ron Egberman 524-0800



El Cerrito \$935,000
Located on a large, mostly level lot close to Madera Elementary, this stunning home is on the edge of Hillside Park and miles of hiking trails. Excellent condition with 3 BRs, 2 baths on main level; 3rd bath, family room, and additional room on lower level. Incredibly private setting frame by lush landscaping, patios & lovely city views.
1265 Contra Costa Dr. Open Sun 2-4
Mary Gray & Mykah Larkins 527-9111



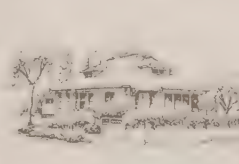
Marina Bay \$739,000
Elegant 4-bedroom, 2.5 bath home in the Breakers Community. One of the largest units in the development. Remodeled upper level with large bonus/rec room, master bedroom suite and 4th bedroom/office. Freshly painted exterior, open floor plan, great house for entertaining.
49 Seagull Dr. Open Sun 2-4:30
Darrell Hoh 524-0800



Pinole \$629,000
Serene hilltop setting overlooking Mt. Tam & North Bay. Spacious one-story home with 3+BRs, 2 baths, high ceilings in master suite and living room. Open, versatile floor plan includes a den that can be converted to 4th BR. Newer roof and new carpeting. Large lot, private deck with views.
2526 Alamo St. Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30
Mark P. Choi 524-0800



El Cerrito \$599,000
Spacious 3BR, 2 bath house has all the amenities! Tastefully updated kitchen and bathrooms, living room w/fireplace, hwd flrs, huge master bedroom, big laundry rm, gorgeous landscaped yard w/deck & detached workshop/art studio, new heating system & water heater. Quiet, friendly neighborhood.
1244 Richmond St. Open Sun 2-4
Olga Stepanyan 527-9111



Berkeley \$550,000
Artistic Craftsman Bungalow! Filled with creative touches, from updated kitchen w/tile pavers and granite counters to hidden hot tub in front yard. 3BRs, 1 bath, great room with fireplace and bay windows, hardwood floors and Craftsman features throughout, separate utility rm w/washer and dryer.
2526 California St. Open Sun 2-4:30
Todd Hodson & Ron Egberman 527-9111



Oakland \$529,000
Charming 2+ bedroom, 1 bath Laurel District home. Lovely details including nice hardwood floors, crown molding, and built-ins. Remodeled kitchen with granite counters. Bonus office with Bay views over detached garage.
3912 Vale Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Pat Duffy 524-0800



Richmond View \$525,000
Stunning remodeled 3-bedroom, 1.5-bath home on huge lot. In prime Richmond View neighborhood. New bathrooms, refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen, new furnace, new water heater, and much, much more. Must see.
1625 Cypress Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Jean Shrem & Marni Fischer 527-9111



Richmond \$485,000
Attractive "MacGregor" style home with a great floor plan and a big backyard perfect for gardening and entertaining. Rare find! 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, bonus room, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, fireplace, hardwood floors. Great location. Must see!
613 40th St. Open Sun 2-4
Lloyd Jung 527-9111



Richmond Annex \$469,000
Imagine a Tree-lined Street - in a neighborhood of other tree-lined streets & well maintained homes. Imagine gleaming oak floors, a fireplace, French doors to a deck, a large yard, 2 bedrooms & a large sunny den/office, and all convenient to shops & transportation.
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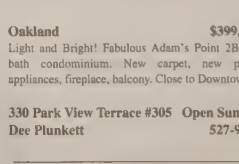
Richmond N&E \$469,000
Perfect 2BR, 1 bath starter home in the heart of North & East. Hardwood floors thruout along with many new dual-pane windows. Wood burning fireplace in living room, formal dining with built-in cabinet. Freshly painted exterior. Large, level lot w/ space for extra cars. Newer rear deck off master BR.
646 39th St. Open Sun 2-4
Darrell Hoh 524-0800



Richmond Annex \$465,000
Home + Income! Originally a 3BR, 2 bath home; currently a 2BR, 1 bath home with a legal rent unit. It has a wonderful lush garden, deck, updated kitchen, and hardwood floors. The rental unit features fresh interior paint and newly refinished hardwood floors.
1302 S. 57th St. Open Sun 2-4
Herman Sun 527-9111



Albany \$429,000
True opportunity! Minutes to Solano Avenue. This modest Victorian Shingle home has 2 bedrooms upstairs and a converted bedrooms downstairs. Other features include exposed ceiling beams, open kitchen, deep backyard for expansion. Needs new foundation. Sold "As Is"
988 Kains Ave. Open Sat & Sun 2-4
Herman Sun 527-9111



Oakland \$399,000
Light and Bright! Fabulous Adam's Point 2BR, 2 bath condominium. New carpet, new paint, appliances, fireplace, balcony. Close to Downtown.
330 Park View Terrace #305 Open Sun 2-4
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646 39th St. Darrell Hoh

1302 S. 57th St. Herman Sun

988 Kains Ave. Herman Sun

3307 Northwood Dr. Unit C Jean Shrem & Marni Fischer

577 Solano Avenue
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(510) 527.2700

582 Fairmount Avenue
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Coldwell Banker raises \$420,000 for Habitat for Humanity

■ Record-setting donation adds to \$1.2 million in the last six years

COLDWELL BANKER

Coldwell Banker announced that it has raised a record \$420,000 for Habitat for Humanity to help low-income families achieve the American Dream of home ownership.

The donation is the largest the company has ever made to Habitat for Humanity and surpasses last donation by nearly 40 percent. The money was raised through a six-week community-wide raffle entitled "The Million Dollar Dream" held throughout the company's 65 Northern California offices.

The raffle theme was developed with a goal that by raising \$200,000, the company would reach \$1 million since launching the raffle six years ago. The \$420,000 brings the company's grand total of monies raised for Habitat for Humanity to \$1.2 million.

The company's East Bay offices were among the top offices in fund-raising throughout Northern California. The Oakland-Piedmont office raised \$4,800 and received special recognition from Coldwell Banker as a "Platinum Office" for their work on behalf of the charitable organization.

"Our 2005 Habitat for Humanity fund-raising campaign has been a phenomenal success and our East Bay offices are a big reason why," said Avram Goldman, president and chief operating officer of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in the San Francisco Bay Area. "Never in our wildest dreams could we have anticipated such an amazing outpouring of generosity and support from our Coldwell Banker team and from the community."

More than 4,800 Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage agents, managers and staff rallied together to make this year's raffle a success, Goldman said. "They believe deeply in the mission of Habitat for Humanity - that everyone should be able to raise their family in their own home," he said. "Our people have incredibly big hearts and I'm proud to be part of their team."

Goldman said that it is appropriate for real estate agents to support Habitat for Humanity as a way to "return their blessings to their community."

See HABITAT, Page B10

Free windows clinic next Saturday

■ Replacing your windows for winter? Seminar gives the needed details

TRUITT AND WHITE

Truitt and White, a leading building supplier in the Bay Area, is offering a free windows clinic. A badly installed window can cause serious problems such as leakage and

NEW WINDOWS FOR REMODELS

When: 9 to 11 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 12

Where: 1817 Second St., Berkeley (Truitt and White Conference Room)

Cost: Free

Registration: Required

Phone: 510-649-2674

Sign up online: truittandwhite.com

mold growth. The clinic will give homeowners advice on avoiding these problems, while successfully installing new windows for their remodeling projects.

Join Tim Jones of T. Russell Jones, Chris Martin of Marvin Windows, and Marc Silveira of Tyvek as they teach homeowners the importance of selecting the right window for a project as well key points for ensuring a successful installation.

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BERKELEY HILLS REALTY 510.524.9888



1026 Ordway St., Albany

Open Sunday 2:00-4:00

This rare & wonderful 4-bdrm, 2-bath home glitters with owner's pride. The immaculate home is surrounded by verdant gardens, lush lawn and raised vegetable beds. Inside, craftsman charm is reinterpreted w/updated comforts and amenities

Bill and Tracy x33

\$885,000



2909 Wheeler St., Berkeley

By Appointment

All new construction in a classic brown shingle, ground level condo (2 units total). Opens onto sunny, private, landscaped grounds. 2 baths. Walk-in closets. French doors. Entrances let in plenty of light. 1673 sq. ft. or sq. ft. lot

Romney O-Connell x52

\$499,000



1448 Allman Street, Glenview

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

Charming 2-bdrm, 1-bath craftsman w/original details. Huge basement plus sep. garage for office, art studio or storage. Entry porch w/orig arched window. Hwd flrs, original tiled fpl, built-ins & period lighting. Artistic kitchen & bath w/pedestal sink. Lovely blond woodwork off kitchen

Chris & Sandy x54

\$625,000



646 - 58th Street, Oakland

Open Sunday 2:00-4:00

New Listing! Fabulous chic bungalow. This gorgeous home remains sensitive to period details; formal dining room, fireplace, hardwood floors, picture rails. Bigger and 1 bath, the home also has a lower level parking garage

Bill & Tracy x33

\$529,000



555 Pierce St., #204, Albany

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New Listing! Spacious, sunny, remodeled 2-bdrm, 2-bath condo in security building. This corner unit with balcony off living room is freshly painted. Remodeled kitchen with granite and maple cabinets; both baths remodeled with marble and maple cabinets

Joan Brunswick x12

\$410,000

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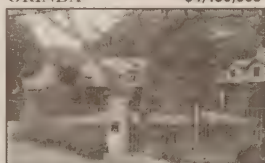
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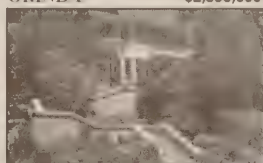
ALAIN PINE REALTORS

ORINDA \$4,450,000



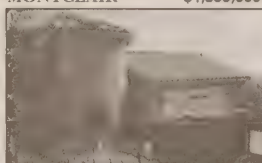
Stunning Gourmet Kitchen. The elegant main house of this gated estate offers 5bd/4ba, wine bar and gourmet kitchen. Highlights include 5 FPs, 2 wine cellars, guest house.

ORINDA \$2,395,000



Price Reduced - Motivated Seller. Elegant 5000+-sf home, beautifully designed with a renovated gourmet kitchen and luxurious MBA. Private setting with panoramic views.

MONTCLAIR \$1,399,000



Upper Montclair Contemporary. Panoramic Bay and Canyon views comprise this 2004 Hennigan built home. Consisting of 3+bd/4ba, this home offers a total of 11 rooms.

MORAGA \$1,395,000



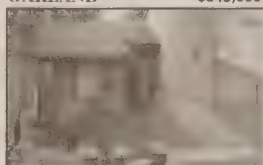
Serene Creek-Side Setting. At the end of a private court sits this remodeled single-story 5bd/3ba home on 1+- acre with a private yard and serene creek-side setting.

WALNUT CREEK \$989,000



Experience The Magic. Restored Mediterranean revival. Old world charm with California lifestyle. LR with high ceiling and warm colors. Formal DR, built-in mosaic tile, yard.

OAKLAND \$849,000



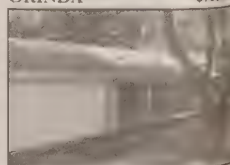
Top of Montclair. Light and bright great room opens to Bay view. Large yard with lawn. 4bd/3ba, home office and den, chef's gas kitchen, FR, complete guest unit.

OAKLAND \$789,000



Montclair State-of-the-Art. Deco perfect and built on steel. 3bd/2ba, gas and granite kitchen, DR, FR, hardwoods, FP with floating hearth against wall of glass. View from spa.

ORINDA \$769,000



Affordable Orinda. Charming flat in close-in Orinda location offers privacy and abundant opportunity. Sits on 0.52+- acre lot and has 3bd/2ba and a large redwood deck.

BERKELEY \$699,000



Convenient & Charming. Very desirable North Berkeley condo built in the 1920's. The 3bd/2ba home also includes 2 finished basement areas. Great location near downtown.

ANTIOCH \$649,000



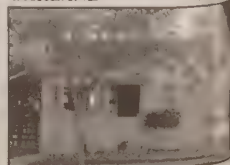
A Home for the Holidays. Cozy and comfortable spaces are the hallmark of this stunning Viera Ranch Plan. Huge master suite, 3 bedrooms and loft upstairs, 1bd/1ba downstairs.

CONCORD \$635,000



Outstanding Value. This attractive home is filled with numerous upgrades. Spacious MBD features a vaulted ceiling and the well appointed gourmet kitchen includes a pantry.

OAKLAND \$499,000



Adorable Ardley Heights Home. Charming 2+bd/1ba Ardley Heights bungalow with classic details, tree-lined street, near Glenview. Large deck and fenced yard.

OAKLAND \$495,000



A Very Sweet Bungalow. This home is ideal. Features include refinished hardwood floors, new electrical, freshly painted updated kitchen and bath plus Bay view.

OAKLAND \$469,000



Wonderful 3+bd/1ba Home. Wonderful 3+bd/1ba home features hardwood floors, upgraded kitchen, new windows, new paint, new appliances and detached garage.

OAKLAND \$469,000



Charming Bungalow in Toier Heights. Sunny, charming, updated 2bd/1ba home with large, private yard and chef's kitchen. Well located near BART, restaurants, urban amenities.

OAKLAND \$299,000



Haddon Hills Flat. Spacious bedroom tenants-in-common blocks from Lake Merritt/Lakeview shops. Bright/sunny top floor unit. Hardwood floors and bay window.

ORINDA 2 Theatre Square 925.258.1111 | MONTCLAIR 6116 LaSalle Avenue 510.899.8000

reverse

reverse mortgage market nationally. In 2004, nearly 20,000 reverse mortgages were made. That represents a 44 percent increase over 2003, but it's still a tiny sliver of the potential market, said Johnson, the company's chief marketing officer.

Challenging misconceptions is a top priority, Johnson said. "People don't give their home away," she said. "They receive a promotional check this year. I never heard of a reverse mortgage," said Ida Hill, 72, of Richmond Heights, Mo. In a few weeks, Hill became educated. Then a customer and is now a mortgagee.

The most reverse mortgage lenders, Hill does not receive a monthly check. Instead, she used the reverse mortgage to wipe out her monthly mortgage payment.

As a result, she and her husband, 72, have about \$10,000 to spend on the day-to-day expenses that had swamped

her. Importantly, they will be able to stay in their home, Ida Hill said.

Ida Hill is in the verge of a nervous breakdown, she said. "I didn't want to go to a senior citizen home."

Reverse mortgages aren't for everybody.

For starters, only homeowners with a lot of equity in their houses qualify. Ideally, the homes must be in good condition.

A financial planner offered a lot of advice about the complexity of the reverse mortgages.

For many seniors, the biggest concern is that the reverse mortgage will reduce the equity in a home. When homeowners die, they literally will have less house to pass on to their heirs.

Ida Hill said she isn't worried about that. The equity in her home is rising faster than the accrued interest.

Besides, she and her children are happy that their immediate financial problems are resolved.

Because they are relatively expensive, reverse mortgages don't make sense for anyone who needs a small sum of money. In those cases, lenders recommend home equity lines of credit instead.

For many seniors, the biggest concern is that reverse mortgages reduce the equity in a home. When

homeowners die, they literally will have less house to pass on to their heirs.

Ida Hill said she isn't worried about that. The equity in her home is rising faster than the accrued interest.

Besides, she and her children are happy that their immediate financial problems are resolved.

"My and my husband, we've never been so happy in our lives," she said. "All I think about is me not paying the mortgage every month."

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sold sold

Please contact me to sign up for the expanded Sales History Statistics by zip code. (Now includes Piedmont). This list shows the address of the home, bedroom and bath count, days on the market plus the asking and sales price. I look forward to hearing from you.

1980 Francisco Way, Richmond
Originally offered at \$495,000
Represented the buyer

555 Pierce Street, Albany
Originally offered at \$415,000
Represented the seller

6447 Regent Street, Oakland
Originally offered at \$395,000
Represented the buyer

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

DIANE VERDUCCI, CRS, SRES
Office: 510.652.2133/449
dverducci@grubbco.com
DianeVerducci.com



open sunday

Open Sunday 2-4:30. This charming Monterey Colonial is perfectly located on a great street close to shopping, restaurants and Davies Tennis Stadium! In immaculate condition, it features four bedrooms, three full baths, spacious, sunken living room with vaulted ceiling & private deck, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, large family room with fireplace and french doors to patio, garden and spa. Two car attached garage!
Offered at \$1,175,000



1027 Park Lane
Crocker Highlands

Offered at \$1,175,000

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

NANCY LEHKIND
Office: 510.339.0400/246
lehrkind@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Spectacular views of Bridges, Bay and San Francisco! Multiple decks and stone patios for indoor-outdoor living and entertaining; four bedrooms plus a nursery. Three and one half baths; hardwood floors and generous spaces throughout! Detached home office; easy access to Campus, downtown and transit.
Offered at \$1,595,000



669 Euclid Avenue, Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

TRICIA SWIFT
Office: 510.339.0400/333
tsswift@grubbco.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Jazzy home in the heart of Rockridge. Three bedrooms, one bath with large public rooms, huge lower level with development potential. Fabulous new studio with bath. Artistic and stylish! Cool garden. Very special!
Offered at \$839,000



5437 Shafter Avenue, Oakland

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

FAYE KEOGH
Office: 510.652.2133/426
fkeogh@grubbco.com



new listings



77 Stratford Road, Kensington
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Carmel charm in the Kensington Hills. There is a story book quality about this three bedroom, one and one half bath home. Beautiful proportions and Bay views. Separate garden office.
Offered at \$799,000

467 Vermont Ave, Berkeley
COMING SOON. Classic 30's home with two bedrooms, office and one bath. Exceptional neighborhood close to Kensington Village. Spacious garden and Bay views.
Offered at \$749,000

The GRUBB Co.
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GRUBBCO.COM

RUTH FRASSETTO
Office: 510.3652.2133/414
rfrassetto@grubbco.com



PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

RECENTLY SOLD - A SERENE RETREAT IN MONTCLAIR

A dramatic mid-century home on three levels surrounded by a garden of approximately one-half acre. Three bedrooms, two baths and a family room.



6363 Asptnwall Road, Oakland
Offered at \$749,000



Erika Celestre

510.338.1370

Erika.Celestre@pacunion.com

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Debra J. Dryden, CRS
Broker Associate
510.339.0400/208
dryden@grubbco.com

THORNWALL PROPERTIES INC.

Open Sunday 2-4:30



► 3050 Elwood • 2027 1st Avenue Ave. Berkeley
1920's Colonial
Light wood floors, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car garage
Home with gorgeous SF & gardens

Open Sunday 2-4:30



► \$749,000 • 1381 Rose St, Berkeley
Smart 1906 Victorian-Style House
3000 sq ft, 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 2 car garage
basement, extra-large yard, in North Berkeley.

Open Sunday 2-4:30



► \$725,000 • 720 Evelyn Ave. Berkeley
Charming Albany Craftsman
Details abound in this 3 bedroom home, with large full basement and extra large yard

Also Available...

401 Marine St Pt. Richmond \$1,900,000
Beautifully designed contemporary 4-plex with panoramic Bay view.

2424 Potter St Maxwell Park \$439,000
Charming Cottage with original details.
2+ bedrooms and 2 baths.

2550 Dana St 2E Berkeley \$239,000
Price reduced for this spacious senior (55+) condo.

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13919 SAGGATE DRIVE
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EL CERRITO
1524 RICHMOND ST.
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\$349,000

1636 HARVARD DR.
ALAMEDA
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SAN LORENZO
1590 VIA CONEJO
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1590 VIA CONEJO
Call Tere Lee at Pacific Plaza freshly tiled, new carpet, flooring and newer appliances. Close to BART.
\$435,000

Habitat

FROM PAGE B8

"By working side by side with low-income families to help build their home, we are helping them build a foundation for a better future," he said. "This work not only helps the immediate family, but future generations and the community at large."

The fund-raising donation will go

towards Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's overall year-end donation benefiting area Habitat for Humanity construction projects.

As part of the raffle, sales associates, managers and staff purchased tickets on behalf of their clients, family, friends and themselves.

The raffle tickets were in turn entered into a drawing for a number of prizes including, among other things, a \$5,000 cash prize, a

seven-night stay at the Kapalua Resort in Maui, and a four-night stay at an oceanfront penthouse on Kaanapali Beach, Maui.

To learn more about Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage's 2005 Habitat for Humanity fund-raising campaign or to make a financial contribution, call your local Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage office or 925-275-3085. All proceeds benefit local Habitat for Humanity chapters.

JUST LISTED



3406 Wyman Street

OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 P.M. This urban chic, 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath home is located in convenient and friendly Maxwell Park. With many recent upgrades, including new double-pane windows, upgraded exterior drainage system, fresh paint inside and out, and beautiful landscaping, this house is a pleasure to call home! Enjoy walking distance to the Farmers Market and up-and-coming Laurel District shopping, as well as all the amenities of Mills College right around the corner. Cute, Clean and Convenient!

Offered at \$595,000



Karyn Selby Miller
510-339-4799
karyn.miller@coldwellbanker.com





PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

RECENTLY SOLD



This home is a lovely brown shingle Craftsman with charming architectural details and hill views. There are three bedrooms and two baths, including a master bedroom suite opening to a secluded deck.

Represented the Buyer

910 Kingston Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$879,000

Erika Celestre
510.338.1370

Erika.Celestre@pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-4:30PM

Montclair Contemporary featuring 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths and 2 half baths. Formal dining, eat-in kitchen/family room combo. Includes adjacent lot (approximately 6,387 sq. ft.).




1850 Arrowhead Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$949,000

Dick Cohen
510.338.1308





www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-4:30PM


SAN FRANCISCO AND MT. TAMALPAIS VIEWS





4123 Eastlake Avenue, Oakland ~ Offered at \$769,500

This lovely, well cared for custom built home is located in the popular Redwood Heights area. This exceptional home features a patio garden setting with spectacular San Francisco Bay and Mt. Tam views and the following features:


- Beautifully updated kitchen with breakfast area
- Deck off living room with spectacular views of Mt. Tam & San Francisco
- Four full bedrooms and three full updated baths
- Spacious family room with adjoining recreation room



Diane Earl McCan
510.338.1352


Cindy Houts
510.338.1364



PACIFIC UNION


GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-4:30 PM





Grand and gracious English Tudor with significant architectural details. Features an elegant living room and room, remodeled kitchen/family room, 3 bedrooms plus den, 2.5 baths and rooftop deck to enjoy San Francisco. Beautiful gardens plus level areas for bikes and playing games.

9 Wyngaard Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$2,195,000



Nancy Rothman
510.339.2169 x 6209

www.NancyRothman.com
www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

STILL AVAILABLE!

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-4PM



740 Ensenada Avenue, Berkeley

This darling 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow is located in the desirable Thousand Oaks neighborhood, just blocks north of Solano Avenue's shops and eateries. Features include hardwood floors, a wood-burning fireplace, a vintage-style kitchen, built-in breakfast nook, a view of the hills from the deck, yard and garage.

Offered at \$650,000



Lorri Arazzi
510.338.1330



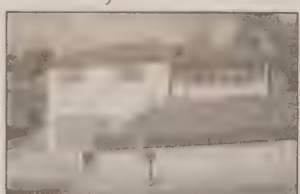

www.LorriArazzi.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate


NEW LISTING - WONDERFUL OAKLAND HILLS HOME

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-4:30PM




4005 Fairway, Oakland ~ Offered at \$675,000

Built in 1953 this wonderful Oakland Hills home has 3BR/2BA and has been beautifully updated and renovated. The kitchen features granite counters, oak cabinets many with glass doors, a stainless Kitchen Aid refrigerator, built-in microwave and plenty of storage. There is a beautiful fireplace in the living room and the outdoor living room windows are peaceful and serene. The indoor outdoor flow is wonderful from the dining area through the French doors to the enclosed porch which is a great place to entertain year round! Another set of French doors leads from the porch to the backyard where you'll spend hours entertaining friends and family. Both the master and main baths have been updated with the main bath featuring a pedestal sink and claw foot tub. Close to transportation and East Bay parks this is a wonderful place to call home!



Carla Buffington
510.338.1367




www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate


OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-4:30 PM





This comfortable sun-filled Silvercrest manufactured home is located in a very popular area of Oakland. This exceptional home features a garden setting and wooded hill views.

- Sparkling kitchen with ample counter and cabinet space
- Lovely breakfast/dining room off kitchen with beautiful chandelier
- Spacious comfortable living room with skylights and bay windows
- Master bedroom suite with hill and tree views
- Master bath features large bath and oversized step in shower
- The garden features beautiful climbing roses, two Meyer lemon and one Navel orange tree, one Dawn and five Coast Redwoods, Crepe Myrtle

4716 Reinhardt Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$629,000



Diane E. McCan
510.338.1352

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LAUREL DISTRICT

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NEW GLENVIEW LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-5PM



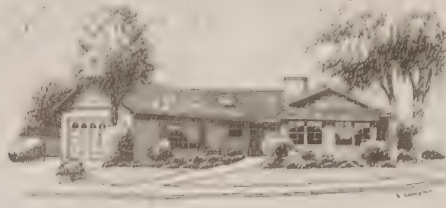
4321 Park Boulevard, Oakland
Offered at \$789,000

Outstanding 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath Craftsman home, situated in the very heart of Glenview. Built in 1912, this home boasts handsome architectural details that reflect the style and craftsmanship of that time. State-of-the-art systems from foundation to rooftop. Spacious, new kitchen and customized garage/workspace with half bath. Ideal location for access to popular commutes and the village shops of Glenview.



Vicki Woodhead
510.338.1334

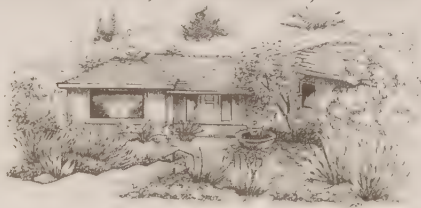
NEW OAKLAND HILLS LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-5PM



13001 Brookpark Road, Oakland
Offered at \$799,000

This charming, all-level home is located in the Parkridge Estates neighborhood of the Oakland Hills and is perfectly sited for maximum curb appeal on its large (approximately .25 acre), corner lot. With 4BR/2BA, formal dining room, family room, updated kitchen and baths, dual-pane windows and mature trees and landscaping, this home makes entertaining a real treat. The nearby East Bay Regional Parklands and hiking trails bring Mother Nature right to your doorstep!

NEW ROCKRIDGE LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-4:30PM



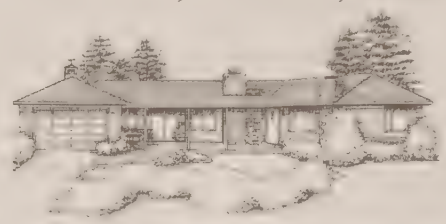
6039 Ocean View Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$1,050,000

Stylish mid-century 3BR/2.5BA charmer with gracious entry and lush secret garden. Decks with partial view across the valley to the bay and city. Living room with fireplace and spacious dining area. Walls of glass. Light and bright. Tailored master bedroom suite with secluded deck.



Dick Cohen
510.338.1308

NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2-4:30PM



9090 Skyline Boulevard, Oakland
Offered at \$819,000

All-level living at its best. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large useable front and back yard. Eat-in kitchen, 2-car garage, basement and workshop.

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,895,000 411 ACACIA AVE.

1990s Colonial 4BR/2.5BA. Gracious & grand w/over 1000 sq. ft. chef's kitchen, lovely professionally landscaped level gardens, views. Located in prestigious Claremont Pines. Dee Knowland x1318



MONTCLAIR \$1,595,000 777 CAMINO LENADA

Stylish new home on a very secluded lot. Only two blocks from schools. 4 bedrooms, three baths. David Hays x1331



ROCKMONT \$1,350,000 MACKINNON PL.

Stunning English Tudor. 4++BR/2.5BA, updated kitchen, formal living rooms, hardwood floors, fabulous garden off family room. Attached garage. Ashley O'Neill x1368



OAKLAND HILLS \$1,295,000 FAIRWAY LN.

Stylish property w/stylish all-level home & 1/2 BA detached cottage w/parklands views. Landscaped areas, lots of room for horses, tennis court, more! Jennie A. Flanagan x1354

ADAMS POINT \$1,199,000 PARK VIEW TERR.

Investor opportunity! Updated Brown Shingle fourplex plus swimming efficiency unit. Secluded setting, convenient location. One large studio, two 1BR/1BA, one 4BR/1+BA. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



ROCKMONT \$5,250,000

Stylish gates lead to a classic English Tudor on approximately 1.4 useable acres. Public rooms include a bedroom and library. 7++ bedrooms, 4+ baths and one half bath. A one of a kind opportunity. Robyn Mohr x1310

ROCKMONT \$1,449,000

Stylish Mediterranean villa set on beautiful landscaped grounds, 3 bedroom suites, beautiful original details, eat-in chef's kitchen, park-like terraces & gardens. Fritz Schneider x1348

10.339.6460



NORTH BERKELEY \$1,195,000 2808 HILGARD AVE.

Set high above its neighbors in a coveted Northside neighborhood, this 4BR/3BA mid-century fixer offers amazing potential, seclusion and views. Mary Montali x1350

ROCKRIDGE \$1,050,000 6039 OCEAN VIEW DR.

New Listing! Stylish mid-century 3BR/2.5BA charmer with gracious entry & lush secret garden. Decks w/partial view, living room w/fireplace, walls of glass. Dee Knowland x1318

MONTCLAIR \$949,000 6801 GUNN DR.

Spectacular Montclair contemporary. Dramatic and attractive with large level yard. 4+BR/3BA, family room, large deck. Joan E. Hause x1358



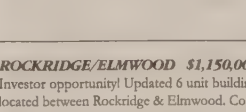
MONTCLAIR \$949,000 1850 ARROWHEAD DR.

Montclair contemporary with 3BR/2 full baths & 2 half baths. Formal dining room, eat-in kitchen/family room combo. Includes adjacent lot (6387/-). Donna Costella x1355



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$849,000 1387 BARROWS RD.

NEW PRICE! Exquisite Cape Cod. Bright sleek kitchen & bath. Soothing colors. 2+BR/1.5BA. Great family room or 3rd bedroom. Detached studio/office. Garden. Steven Biasari x1379



ROCKRIDGE/ELMWOOD \$1,150,000

Investor opportunity! Updated 6 unit building located between Rockridge & Elmwood. Convenient to UC Berkeley, BART, College & Telegraph Ave. shopping & restaurants. Call agent for showing times. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

BERKELEY \$995,000

Duplex in front, single family house in back, hot tub in the middle. Easy to fall in love with. Seeks new owner, or perhaps a group thing. Tom Nemeth 510-652-6537

ADAMS POINT \$929,000

Perfect for Owner/Occupant. Large, spacious units retaining original architectural details. 3 flats in front building: 2-2BR/1BA, 1-3BR/1BA. Detached 1BR/1BA updated cottage. Large lot. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



MONTCLAIR \$825,000 6616 SARONI DR.

Delightful 4BR/3BA, large rampus room, 2 fireplaces, eat-in kitchen. Room for expansion. Gleaming hardwood floors, newly done roof. Front & back yard. Wendy Gardner-Ferrari x1303

MONTCLAIR \$819,000 9090 SKYLINE BLVD.

New Listing! All-level living at its best. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Large useable front & back yards. Eat-in kitchen. 2-car garage. Basement & workshop. Dick Cohen x1308



MONTCLAIR \$799,000 5748 FLORENCE TERR.

Enchanting Cape Cod cottage on oversized landscaped lot near Montclair Village. 3BR/2BA, hardwood floors, French doors to deck, fireplace, garden and more. Dee Knowland x1318

OAKLAND HILLS \$799,000 13001 BROOKPARK RD.

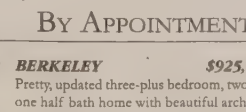
New Listing! Charming all-level 4BR/2BA home in Parkridge Estates. Large 25+- acre corner lot near Regional Parks & hiking trails. Updated kitchen & baths, formal dining. Vicki Woodhead x1334

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$789,500 3630 VICTOR AVE.

Circa 1930s Tudor w/spectacular living room & formal dining room. 4BR/2BA, large eat-in kitchen, two extra plus rooms, 2-car tandem garage. Rear yard. Diane E. McCan x1352

GLENVIEW \$789,000 4321 PARK BLVD.

New Listing! Outstanding 3BR/2.5BA craftsman. Handsome architectural details, state-of-the-art systems, updated kitchen, customized garage/workspace w/half bath. Christian Downer x1340



BERKELEY \$925,000

Pretty, updated three-plus bedroom, two and one half bath home with beautiful architectural details. Spacious beamed ceiling living room, eat-in kitchen, inviting master suite, level yard. Leslie Avant x1341

PIEDMONT \$895,000

Comfortable home, on a serene street, with a flexible floor plan. 3+ bedrooms, 3 baths, family room off the kitchen. Formal dining room, den and more! Level yard. Georgia Cornell x1325

MONTCLAIR \$649,000

Charming two bedroom, one bath, two-story. Remodeled cook's kitchen. Master suite w/French doors opening onto sunny deck. Great open plan design, verdant views. Leslie Avant x1341



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$769,500 4123 EASTLAKE AVE.

New Listing! Lovely, well cared for custom built home. 4BR/3BA, beautifully updated kitchen, views of SF & Mt. Tam, spacious family room w/adjoining rec room. Cindy Houts x1364

SEQUOYAH HILLS \$729,000 4295 SEQUOYAH RD.

Spacious all-level 4BR/3BA ranch home on useable lot w/beautiful golf course outlooks. Kitchen/family room, wonderful indoor/outdoor spaces. Jane Strauch x1332

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$719,000 1001 PORTAL AVE.

Charming Mediterranean in lovely garden setting. 2BR/1BA, gourmet kitchen w/stainless & granite, beautiful oak floors, fireplace, patio, gardens. Jackie Care x1378

ROCKRIDGE/TEMESCAL \$699,000 391 51ST. ST.

Classic craftsman with original charm. 3BR/2BA, huge customized gourmet kitchen. Updated & remodeled. Near College Avenue & Temescal. Leslie Easterday x1363

OAKLAND HILLS \$675,000 4005 FAIRWAY AVE.

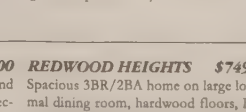
New Listing! Wonderful 3BR/2BA home, beautifully updated & remodeled. Great indoor/outdoor flow, French doors, enclosed porch. Near transportation & East Bay parks. Kathy Flynn x1317

BERKELEY \$650,000 740 ENSENADA AVE.

Darling 2BR/1BA bungalow! Hardwood floors, fireplace, vintage-style kitchen, breakfast nook, view of hills from deck, garden. Near Solano shops & eateries. Lorri Arazi x1330

HADDON HILL \$649,000 908-906 PROSPECT AVE.

Top-notch Haddon Hill duplex on a covered street. Sunny floor plans in pristine condition. Hardwood floors, original details. Secluded garden & patio. Ashley O'Neill x1368



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$749,000

Spacious 3BR/2BA home on large lot. Formal dining room, hardwood floors, French doors, master suite w/walk-in closet. Fabulous yard w/patio, lawn & lap pool! Diane E. McCan x1352

BERKELEY \$625,000

Charming duplex in garden setting just 2 blocks to BART. 2BR/1BA front unit & 1BR/1BA rear unit. Each w/fireplace & hardwood floors. Off street parking. Joanna Gould x1346

OAKLAND \$569,000

Gardener's delight! Charming Traditional built in 1938. 2BR/1BA w/additional sun room, refinished hardwood floors, newer kitchen, deck & large yard with pond. Kathy Flynn x1317

OAKLAND HILLS \$629,000 4716 REINHARDT DR.

Charming and immaculate single level 3BR/2BA home surrounded by lush landscaping, fruit trees and climbing roses. Diane E. McCan x1352

MILLSMONT \$599,000 5928 LAIRD AVE.

New Listing! Historic Millsmont Mediterranean charmer. 2+BR/2BA. Updated. Beamed ceilings, hardwood floors, bay view Full au-pair set up. Chuck Corwin x1353

MAXWELL PARK \$535,000 4505 WALNUT ST.

New Listing! Sweet and spacious 1925 craftsman with lots of light, handsome kitchen & bath. 3BR or 2BR + study, laundry, garage, basement, fenced back yard. Joanna Gould x1346

EL SOBRANTE \$529,000 910 ST. ANDREWS DR.

New Listing! Adorable 3BR/1BA home w/beautifully remodeled cook's kitchen, updated bath. Attached garage, large level yard w/patio. Convenient location. Carla Buffington x1367

ROCKRIDGE \$479,000 5343 BROADWAY TERR. #202

Freshly renovated 2BR/2BA condo. Lots of upgrades. Fireplace in living room. Deck opens to master bedroom & living/dining area. End unit w/easy access to garage. Ann Nichols x1319

OAKLAND HILLS \$413,000 760 CANYON OAKS UNIT G

New Listing! 2BR/2BA top floor condominium. Living room w/cathedral ceilings, fireplace & glass doors to secluded deck. Bedrooms w/walk-in closets & decks. Ten Carlisle x1305

BERKELEY \$625,000

Charming duplex in garden setting just 2 blocks to BART. 2BR/1BA front unit & 1BR/1BA rear unit. Each w/fireplace & hardwood floors. Off street parking. Joanna Gould x1346

OAKLAND \$569,000

Gardener's delight! Charming Traditional built in 1938. 2BR/1BA w/additional sun room, refinished hardwood floors, newer kitchen, deck & large yard with pond. Kathy Flynn x1317



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Elmwood District Cottage



2932 Pine Avenue
Offered at \$754,500



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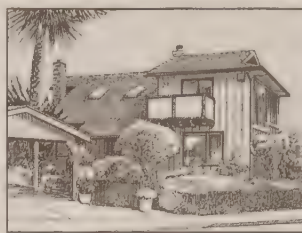
Absolutely adorable updated 1906 Victorian cottage located on one of the sweetest streets in the popular Elmwood district. This darling home has a new kitchen, 2 new bathrooms, two spacious bedrooms and a large sunroom with built-in office space which could also be used as a third bedroom. Freshly painted inside and out in soft, neutral colors. Lovingly restored and enhanced interior spaces with gleaming hardwood floors, built-in china cabinet in the dining area, and new fireplace mantel. Close to College Avenue shopping and commute access options.

Natalie Cuttler
510.986.9543
natashac@earthlink.net



FABULOUS CONTEMPORARY

6005 Felix Avenue



Offering Price \$725,000
Open Sunday 2-5



Prudential
California Realty

Richmond View
Located in the hills of Richmond, this Contemporary features a dramatic, two story Great room with ceiling brick fireplace, dining area, kitchen, two bedrooms, three and one half bathrooms, a pool with hot tub, and an art studio. Additional appointments include a carport, 3 decks, a "Martha Stewart" style potting shed and multiple gardens with an array of flowers, grapevines, pathways and fruit trees. Once the home of a known artist.

Contact: BARBARA HOPPER
Prudential California Realty

(510) 845-0211

Voice Mail (510) 986-1000

Virtual Tour: www.Prurealty.com/barbarahopper

JUST LISTED

Charming Cottage Type Condo

Open Sunday Nov. 6 & 13
2-5 PM



1310 Poe St., Berkeley
Offered at \$495,000



Prudential
California Realty

Sweet, serene and sunbathed are but a few of the words to describe this Berkeley condo. This two bedroom charmer is in a tiny complex nestled in exuberant gardens on a quiet, friendly cul-de-sac. Some of the many features are a large eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, French doors off the second bedroom, lovely common area, deck, new central heating and a new water heater.

Debra Alber
Claremont Office
Prudential California Realty
510-986-9532
debra.alber@prurealty.com



OLD WORLD MEETS NEW WORLD

5712 Country Club Drive



Offering Price \$1,750,000
Open Sat. & Sun. 2-5



Prudential
California Realty

Claremont Pines
First time on the market in 42 years, this very fine Spanish Mediterranean style home features 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, kitchen, breakfast room, spacious living room with custom fireplace and French door leading to a large patio, a huge formal dining room and an office/library. A recreation room with entertainment area. 3 car garage are located on the lower level. Special amenities include Spanish stone tile; hardwood floors, niches, stained glass, mahogany, an attic, classic architectural detailing throughout and magnificence of the Bay, both bridges and Mt. Tam - a very elegant home. A must see.

Contact: BARBARA HOPPER
Prudential California Realty

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Voice Mail (510) 986-1000

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FEATURED HOMES

OAKLAND



Sunday 2-5 \$1,750,000
5712 Country Club Dr. Classic Mediterranean 4BR/3BA, office, magnificent Bay views. Beautiful 3BR/1.5BA traditional.
Barbara Hopper (510) 845-0211

BERKELEY



Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,495,000
70 Vincent. Stunning contemporary w/fab. views. 3BR/2BA, 2 fireplaces, formal D/R, great kitchen. Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900

OAKLAND



Sunday 2-4:30 \$699,000
1017 Everett. Charming early 3BR/1+BA Traditional w/architectural details.
Kris Makris (510) 339-9290

BERKELEY



Sunday 2-4:30 \$645,000
1527 Tyler. Charming 3BR Craftsman with family room, restored to the "nines".
Barbara Reynolds (510) 868-1400

OAKLAND



Sunday 2-5 \$475,000
7859 Crest Ave. 3BR/1.5BA, w/piano views, eat-in kitchen.
Diane Ohlsson (510) 868-1400

OAKLAND

Sunday 2-5 \$1,699,000
5747 Buena Vista Ave. Ideal 5+BR/3.5BA timeless traditional beauty.
Heidi Marchessault (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4:30 \$885,000
3375 Herrier Street. Stunning SF Bay views. Beautiful 3BR/1.5BA traditional.
Patricia Makinen (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-5 \$829,000
5699 Merriewood Dr. Spacious 3BR/2.5BA home above Thornhill Glen.
Maureen Kennedy (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-5 \$825,000
6912 Colton. Unique, level-in 3BR/3BA custom ranch w/wonderful canyon views.
www.laurelstrand.com (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4:30 \$749,500
4501 Malcolm Ave. Gorgeous landscaping, 3BR/2BA, large lot!
Imma Baldrige (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30 \$679,000
809 McKinley. Spacious 3BR/1.5BA Mediterranean w/pretty city views.
Tam Bobb (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4 \$679,000
82 Claremont Lane. 3BR/2.5BA. Private street, custom built-in!
Terrence Jue (510) 868-1471

Sat & Sun 2-4 \$649,000
595 Chetwood, Berkeley. Corner lot 2+BR/1BA, rose garden, which's hat bungalow.
Rochelle Lussman (510) 868-1400

Sat & Sun 2-4:30 \$479,000
2124 Rosedale Ave. Adorable 1913, 2BR +1BA Craftsman. 1st open!
Lucretia Jacobs (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4 \$475,000
5917 Mauritania Ave. 3BR/1.5BA, 1529 sq.ft. well maintained.
Louise Julies (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30 \$459,000
3416 Rhoda Ave. Wonderful, remodeled 2BR/1BA diamond in the Diamond District.
John Wesley Realtor.com (510) 339-9290

OAKLAND

Sunday 1-4 \$449,000
3507 Redding St. 2BR/1BA + bonus BR, great location.
Tommy Ho (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30 \$399,500
6300 Monardock Way. Beautiful 2BR, new kitchen, BA, nice yard, special.
Amberson McCulloch (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30 \$385,000
5690 Vallejo Cottage. Modern interior, Emeryville border!
Wendy Kashiba (510) 868-1400

Sat & Sun 2-4:30 \$380,000
2752 78th Ave. 3BR/1BA sep unit in rear.
David Lockett (510) 834-2010

Sat & Sun 2-5 \$369,000
4 Folsom #712. 1BR/1BA, office space, cute, view!
Jaka (510) 868-1400

Sunday 2-4 \$330,000
3768 Harrison St. #304. Large 1BR/1BA top floor. Elevator! 900+ sq.ft. Views. Pkg.
(415) 575-5599

Sunday 2-4:30 \$308,000
500 Vernon Street #112. 1BR/1BA, lg courtyard, pool.
Virginia & Cal Fox (925) 283-7000

HAYWARD

Hayward Hills \$785,000
3BR/2BA hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, marble floors +
Desiray R. McFall (510) 337-8570

Sunday 2-4:30 \$579,000
1985 Catalpa. 3BR/2BA, LR, FR, lg. kt., big yard.
Scott Thompson (510) 428-0900

BERKELEY/ALBANY

North Berkeley \$835,000
1916 Craftsman. 3BR/1BA, HWF, FR, huge yard, Gourmet Ghetto.
Eric Wong (510) 868-1400

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BERKELEY/ALBANY

Sunday 2-4:30 \$775,000
1049 Ordway St., Albany. 3BR/2BA, views, yard, HWF, close to shops, girl schools.
(510) 868-1400

Sunday 1-5 \$754,500
2932 Pine, Berkeley. Updated & adorable 1906 cottage. 2+BR/2BA in the Elmwood.
Natalie Cuttler (510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-4 \$499,000
1137 Cornell, Albany. 2BR/1BA and plus room. Many upgrades - move right in.
Kathleen Wilson (510) 527-9800

Sunday 2-5 \$495,000
1310 Poe Street, Berkeley. 2BR cottage/condo with HWF, deck, EIK, gardens.
Debra Alber (510) 845-0211

BERKELEY/ALBANY

Sunday 2-4:30 \$459,000
2335 10th St., Berkeley. Lovely condo cottage in 4 unit compound - lg yard!
Aliya Gerstman (510) 868-1400

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 1-4 \$1,250,000
1917 Park Meadow Dr., Alamo. 3BR/2BA, contemp ranch, light filled.
Maria Einaudi (510) 499-4354

Sunday 2-5 \$1,072,000
102 Sonora Ct., Oakley. 5BR/3BA, 3852 sq.ft., bld 2003, pool, beautiful home.
Kathrina Versosa (510) 834-2010

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 1-4 \$1,250,000
2057 Tapscott, El Cerrito. 3BR/2BA, immaculate maintained. Move right in views.
Susan Riggle Waterson (510) 868-1400

Sunday 1-4 \$1,250,000
42 Prentiss Pl., San Ramon. Paradise home! kitchen opens to lawn & pool.
Herman Luna or Kathy Dittmer (510) 868-1400

Sunday 2-4 \$1,250,000
111 Nichol Ave., Pt. Richmond. Spacious 3BR/1BA on quiet tree-lined street.
Julie Wilson (510) 868-1400

Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,250,000
985 Valerie Ct., El Sobrante. 3BR/2BA, 2nd level yard, great entertain spot.
Amy Davis (510) 868-1400

RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT

4140 Fran Way, Richmond \$1,250,000
12 units, excellent location, gd rents, no mgt investment.
James C Lim (510) 868-1400

Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,250,000
431 Linda, Piedmont. Beautiful, rare, upper 2BR/1BA units, views, pkg.
Kathy Dittmer (510) 868-1400

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SMART TIPS FOR:

Wildlife friendly backyard

READER'S DIGEST
The National Wildlife Federation began its Backyard Wildlife Program in 1973 as a way to acknowledge people who were making efforts to welcome wildlife into their back yards.
A certified back yard wildlife habitat requires the following four elements:
Food: Food sources include shrubs and trees that provide fruits and seeds throughout the year, and ornamental and annuals that provide nectar for butterflies and hummingbirds. Planters and feeders can offer seeds, berries, and nectar.
Water: Possible water sources include bird baths, springs, water features, ponds (which also provide habitat for dragonflies, fish, newts, frogs, and other aquatic life) and streams.
Cover: Places to shelter and hide might include deciduous shrubs and trees, brush piles, logs, rock walls, ground covers, meadow or prairie patch.
Places to raise young: Evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs provide nests for birds, as do nesting boxes and shelves.
A variety of wildlife can nurture their young under the boughs of trees, in rock, log, or mulch piles, dens, trees, or on the ground, and in meadow, prairie, or scrub patches.
Aquatic and amphibious species deposit their eggs in ponds. Butterfly eggs and caterpillars are busy among herbs, flowers, shrubs and trees.

The Weekly Sales can be found in the Auto Section on page D4.

Spacious 4BR/2Ba home in coveted Thousand Oaks. Original details and architectural style is that of noted architect John Hudson Thomas. Extensive remodel and updates throughout. Huge 700 ft finished attic w/14 ft ceilings is a must see, private deck balcony offers views of the Golden Gate.

Offered at \$1,385,000

1937 Capistrano Avenue, Berkeley

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**THE CLAPBOARD
FAMILY CRAFTSMAN**



1527 Tyler Street, Berkeley
Open Sunday, 2-4:30

A rare house indeed. A charming clapboard Craftsman with room for the whole family. In Berkeley. Totally redone in period style, with large open living room/dining room, 3 good sized bedrooms, big family kitchen, and opening out to the garden...a real "family" room. See, even Berkeley has family values.

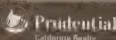
Offered at \$645,000



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**455 Lagunitas Avenue
Adams Point Duplex**



Built in the 1920's, this well-maintained duplex offers grand living and dining rooms, hardwood floors and fireplaces.

Each unit features approximately 2,000 sq. ft. and 1 and 1/2 baths, with three bedrooms in the lower unit and four in the upper unit.

• Convenient freeway access, walking distance to BART, and just minutes from San Francisco

• Walking distance to Lake Merritt, the Grand Lake Theatre, and the Grand/Lakeshore shopping corridors

Offered at \$895,000

Open Sunday, November 6th
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

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**open
sunday**

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Top floor penthouse condominium in best building. Splendid hill views! Two bedrooms, two and one half baths, laundry in unit, secure parking, large entertainment room. Close to Piedmont Avenue shops and restaurants.

Offered at \$595,000



One Kellon Court, Oakland

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**open
sunday**

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Stunning Crocker Highlands Tudor on one of Oakland's most beautiful streets! Four bedrooms, three baths, fabulous eat-in kitchen, elegant living room and formal dining room. Exceptional!

Offered at \$1,350,000



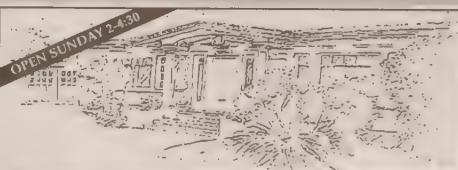
1053 Sunnyhills Road
Crocker Highlands

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4129 'G' PENNIMAN COURT, OAKLAND



- NEW FOUNDATION
- Two Bedrooms
- One Bath
- 1 Car Garage w/Expansion Conversion Potential
- Side Yard
- Newer Refrigerator, Washer & Dryer
- Quiet, Safe, Private Court

Craftsman Beauty

This lovely home is in the heart of Oakland, yet you feel more like you're in a village. Located at the end of a secluded cul-de-sac, you will hear more crickets than cars. Besides a peaceful environment, the home has a new foundation, 7-year-old roof, new paint in and out, refinished hardwood floors, fireplace with built-ins, 1 car garage and a light-filled eat-in kitchen. Newer sewer line. Peek-a-boo hill view.

Price \$489,000

**Jeannette Muzima
& Helen Marshall**
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'This view can be yours



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The conveniences: a gourmet Safeway, Borders, Starbucks and Wells Fargo Bank right downstairs. **The amenities:** an outdoor heated pool, two outdoor spas, fitness center, clubhouse, dog run, parking for you and your guests, and more. **The views:** simply breathtaking.

Located in South Beach, The Beacon is within a short walk of San Francisco's finest shopping, dining, culture and entertainment. One-three bedroom homes (some with dens, patios and balconies) priced from the high \$500,000's.

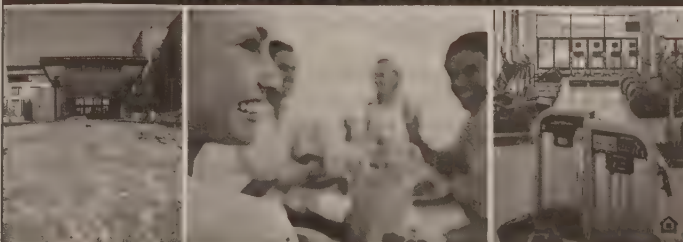
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Third release now available!



NEW LISTING! - San Leandro

Open
Sat & Sun 1-5



1209 Lillian Ave.

Well maintained 2BR 1 bath, home in nice area! Refinished hardwood floors, fireplace, garage, freshly painted interior. Gorgeous backyard. Near shopping and transportation.

Offered at \$535,000

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2526 Alamo Street • Pinole

Spacious one-story home on serene hilltop overlooking Mt. Tam and the North Bay. Features include 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, high ceilings in the master suite and living room. Open, versatile floor plan w/den that can be 4th bedroom. Newer roof, new carpeting. Large, level lot, very private trellised deck with lovely views. Offered at \$629,000



Mark P. Choi

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www.markpchoi.com

Open 2:00 - 4:30
Sunday, November 6th

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Open Sunday 2-4 pm

863 Santa Barbara Rd

North Berkeley

Elegant Spanish Mediterranean

Beautifully remodeled

4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths

Spectacular kitchen

Large family room opens to

lovely landscaped gardens

\$1,400,000

Pictures at

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Open Sunday, November 6, 2-5



Great Affordable Opportunity

Oakland - A must see! First timers and investors are most welcome. This cute, affordable 2BR/1BA Craftsman is located on a corner lot on the adorable Penniman Ct. (semiprivate cul-de-sac). New carpet and paint inside. Newer paint out, 10-yr roof, wood burning fireplace, refrigerator/washer/dryer all stay. It sports a fenced-in yard with a garden patio. 1 car detached garage. Close to 580 fwy. Great location!

4117 Penniman Avenue, Oakland

Offered at \$399,000

Visit me at www.4117PennimanAve.com



Jay Poshepny

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JayPoshepny.com

www.JayPoshepny.com

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California Realty

A sampling of our current listings:

San Pablo

Cute 3bd/1ba home -- hardwood floors, new double pane windows, tiled kitchen and bath. Roof is 5 years old. White picket fence front yard and many fruit trees in backyard \$425,000

San Francisco -- Mission

Beautiful 3-unit Edwardian. 2 2bd units, wonderfully updated 3bd top floor unit with views to Twin Peaks. Ideal investment or as TICs (two units vacant at COE). \$1,795,000

Milpitas Valley

Charming 4 bd, 1 ba home in popular Sycamore Park close to schools, rec center, downtown & more. Refinished floors and new paint inside and outside facade. Use as is or bring your imagination. There's lots of potential. \$950,000



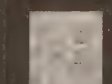
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Jim Hedges

manager

slunionjim@aol.com

415-762-9399

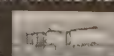


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Fabulous North Berkeley Hills location with flexible floor plan offering au-pair/in-law potential! 4+BD/2BA on two levels, classic details & tastefully executed updates. Two levels of big decks with filtered Bay views, expansive lot with majestic redwoods and terraced garden areas. \$899,000

North Berkeley Hills



744 Euclid Avenue, Berkeley—Open Sunday!

Call 510/526-4336 for more information!

Northbrae Properties

Northbrae Properties—1600 Hopkins Street, Berkeley 94707—510/526-4336—www.northbrae.com

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RED OAK REALTY

2099 Pleasant Valley
Oakland, CA 94611



RED OAK REALTY



16060 VIA WALTER, SAN LORENZO

PERFECT HOME THAT'S BIG ENOUGH FOR EVERYONE! Wonderful 3 bedroom bath house with a backyard & garden. Large living room, great kitchen with island and a big family room with fireplace. This home is in great condition—just move right in! Half block from elementary school. LISTED AT \$559,000

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Kimberly Miller, Realtor®

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ALEX ALEXANDER

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2099 Pleasant Valley

Oakland



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Berkeley



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REALTORS

Open Sunday November 6th and 13th, 2-4:30
Just Listed ~ 20 Hillcrest Court



This town home boasts a magnificent gourmet kitchen, three large bedrooms and two plus baths. Berber carpet, fireplace, rich hardwood floors, two car garage, vaulted ceilings and views of the bay.

Offered at \$699,000

Come and see for yourself during our special preview Saturday, November 5th 2-4:30pm

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new listings



14370 Skyline Boulevard, Oakland
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Elegant architectural details and the finest materials await you in this three bedroom, two and one half bath home just redesigned from head to toe. Gorgeous Bay views, chef's kitchen, new baths a luxurious master suite and a private level rear patio and lawn.

Offered at \$1,239,000



733 Keeler Avenue, Berkeley
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Enjoy spectacular sunsets and San Francisco Bay and bridge views from this exquisite three bedroom, two bath traditional with a Mediterranean flair. An elegant living room with a vaulted redwood ceiling, updated eat-in kitchen and formal dining room ideal for entertaining.

Offered at \$895,000

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RED OAK REALTY | Homes Open Sunday

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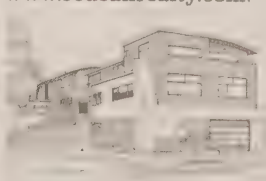
ALBANY \$639,000
3/2.5 - Exciting new townhome style condo near Solano Avenue. For more information, visit www.1010KainsAlbany.com.
1010 Kains Avenue Open 1-4



ALBANY - NEW! \$559,000
2/1 - "Harvest" this home located on a 5,000 sq. ft. lot. Moments to Trader Joe's, BART, Solano Avenue & schools.
520 Cornell Street Open 2-4



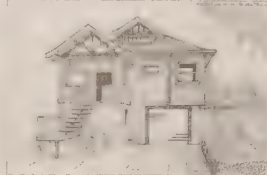
BERKELEY \$1,095,000
4+2.5 - A beautiful, spacious Walter Ratcliff in the heart of Elmwood. Sunny and spacious with a 3rd floor retreat.
2929 Benvenue Avenue Open 2-4



BERKELEY - NEW! Starting at \$829,000
LIVE/WORK - Green-built with high-end finishes. Loads of light, decks, gardens. Near 4th Street shops & restaurants
2209 & 2211 5th Street Open 2-4:30



BERKELEY \$719,000
2/1 - Extremely charming petite Normandy gem! Beautifully landscaped lot, cathedral ceiling, detached garage, peek view, more.
643 Cragmont Avenue Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$799,000
4/2 - Huge single family home. 3,200 sq.ft. of living space, 2 kitchens, big yard, great location. More @ www.heidiandjerry.com.
1235 Stannage Avenue Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW! \$955,000
3/2 - Beautiful English Tudor in Crocker Highlands. Original details with modern amenities. This home is move-in ready!
701 Paloma Avenue Open 2-4



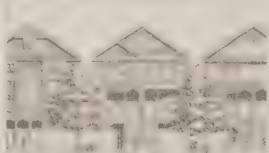
OAKLAND - NEW! \$519,000
2/2 - 1,300 square foot townhouse with high ceilings in 4-unit gated complex. More details at www.charliecookproperties.com
444 38th Street Unit B Open 2-4:30



OAKLAND \$499,000
2/1 - Sweet, sunny and stylish Laurel bungalow with a country kitchen, deck with Bay view. Located on a stunning corner lot.
3750 Madrone Avenue Open 2-4:30



OAKLAND \$549,000
2/2 - Luxurious Adams Point condo with views of Grand Avenue cafes and shops. Moments to restaurants, theater & Lakeshore Avenue.
388 Santa Clara Ave. #105 Open 2-4



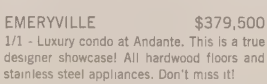
EL CERRITO - NEW! \$475,000
2/1 - Very cute. Fireplace in living room, re-finished oak floors, new paint in & out, updated kitchen, bath & electric. Landscaped gardens.
1233 Liberty Street Open 2-5



OAKLAND \$499,000
2/1 - Move right into this lovely home. New bamboo floor, spacious kitchen, beautifully landscaped, huge backyard, freshly painted!
7916 Winthrop Street Open 2-4:30



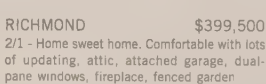
OAKLAND - NEW! \$499,000
DUPLEX - 4/2 on each floor. Completely remodeled! Deck and large backyard.
1256 84th Avenue Open 1-4



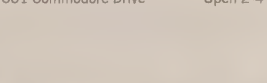
EMERYVILLE \$379,500
1/1 - Luxury condo at Andante. This is a true designer showcase! All hardwood floors and stainless steel appliances. Don't miss it!
1121 40th Street #3401 Open 1:30-4



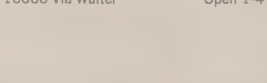
HERCULES \$359,900
2/2 - Sun-filled upper end unit in smaller, well-maintained complex. Soaring ceilings, fireplace, garage, views from terrace.
1402 Forest Run Open 2-4



RICHMOND \$399,500
2/1 - Home sweet home. Comfortable with lots of updating, attic, attached garage, dual-pane windows, fireplace, fenced garden
552 25th Street Open 2-4



RICHMOND - NEW! \$545,000
3/2.5 - Rare Cape Cod townhouse. Two-story, landscaped courtyard, next to marina, parks and San Francisco Bay.
601 Commodore Drive Open 2-4



SAN LORENZO \$559,000
3/2 - Wonderful with large living room, great kitchen, big family room with fireplace. This home is in great condition - just move right in!
16060 Via Walter Open 1-4



BRISBANE \$665,000
2/2 - Breathtaking luxury townhouse at The Ridge. Spectacular mountain views, marble baths, gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, more.
111 Tanager Court Open 1-4

[november 6th]

RED OAK REALTY

Enchanting English Tudor!



701 PALOMA AVENUE, OAKLAND

Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath English Tudor situated in Crocker Highlands - just blocks from Lakeshore shops and restaurants. Well adorned with original details & equipped with modern amenities. The remodeled kitchen features a vintage stove and hand-glazed tiles. The living room centers around a beautiful tile fireplace. Its picture-perfect windows look out to Crocker Highland's quintessential charm. French doors grant you access to a beautifully landscaped backyard. Refinished hardwoods & custom colors make this home move-in ready. LISTED AT \$955,000

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6th 2-4 PM

Saraya Motley, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2162 WEB: www.eastbayhouse.com



RED OAK REALTY

Just Listed!



2209 & 2211 5th STREET, BERKELEY

Exceptional live/work residences, designed by Rempel + Lao Architects, provide the height of urban living in Berkeley. Residences are a harmony of green-built construction & high-end finishes. Each unit holds a unique indoor-outdoor experience with decks, windows & beautifully landscaped gardens. Light-filled units have radiant heating, Italian kitchens, granite countertops, gourmet appliances, green-certified bamboo & Brazilian cherry flooring, washer & dryer hook-ups, solar energy, garage parking, hill & bay views and much more. STARTING AT \$829,000

OPEN SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6th & 13th 2-4:30 PM

Carrie McAlister & John Newell, Realtors®

DIRECT: 510-292-2038 EMAIL: carrie@redoakrealty.com



Pansies, violas, poppies add seasonal color

Q. What might we plant in the way of seasonal color, with winter right around the corner? The area that I am particularly interested in planting is pretty shady. I was thinking of pansies but are they a winter bloomer?

A. Pansies do bloom during the winter months. Actually, they flower the best when the temperatures are cool.

So, we would expect them to be colorful through May. Pansies are available in a wide variety of colors.

The size of the flowers ranges from two to three and a half inches, some with clear faces while others have dark blotches.

See BUZZ, Page B17



BUZZ BERTOLERO
The Dirt Gardener

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ON TALK 910am KNEW AT 10 AM

LISTEN SUNDAY, NOV. 6th AT
10 AM FOR MORE
INFORMATION

Linda Gerchick, CCIM
Associate Broker
www.justtoedit.com
Direct (480) 248-1264
Cell (602) 688-9279

Income Property With Style!



A rare find indeed. This lovely Victorian has been cherished by all who have owned it. Much of the architectural details remain since it was built in 1904 and it has been meticulously maintained and cared for over the years. It is a wonderful place to call home for the tenants that occupy the six units. 6 parking spaces are in back of the building. With easy access to BART, University Campus, chic shops and restaurants, this property also yields an annual income of \$165,000. Truly a great investment opportunity for someone with an appreciation of the past and a vision. For more details about this property please give us a call.

Asking price: \$1,800,000

3228-3230 Adeline Street
Berkeley



Prudential California Realty
Lillian Liao
Office: 510-337-8670
Cell: 510-326-1428
Email: lillian.liao@prurealty.com



Prudential California Realty
Joshua Conlin
Office: 510-337-8670
Cell: 415-518-8862
Email: joshua.conlin@prurealty.com

Information deemed to be reliable but not guaranteed.

CONTRA COSTA TIMES MORTGAGE GUIDE

www.mtgeinfo.com/cct

Information by INFOTRAK
National Data Services

COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Comments
Wells Fargo Home Mtg. 925-736-1125 Fees=\$1180	30-yr Fixed call...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call...	10/1 ARM I/O call...	5/1 ARM I/O call...	PURCHASE - REFI - INCOME PROPERTY! Lock in a LOW Rate Today! - 925-736-1125 JUMBO 30 Yr, 10/1 ARM, 5/1 ARM-Int Only
Wells Fargo Home Mtg. 866-809-1502 Fees=\$1431	30-yr Fixed call...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.625...0.000 6.667...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.825...0.000 5.854...30	10/1 ARM Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.041...30	100% to 1 ML. Free Pre Approval Credit Lines to 3 MI Bank Relationship
AAXA Discount Mortgage 877-728-3569 DOC# 6038183 Fees=\$1633	30-yr Fixed 6.000...0.000 6.045...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.408...30	1 Mo Option ARM 1.000...0.000 1.034...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.250...1.000 5.348...30	Deep Discounts For Excellent Credit I/O Available on all products WWW.FORTHEBESTRATE.COM 1-877-728-3569
Absolute Mortgage Fund. 888-90-HOMES DOC# 603 A776 Fees=\$1359	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.125 5.890...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250...0.125 6.290...30	15-yr Fixed 5.500...0.125 5.580...30	5/1 ARM 5.375...0.000 6.300...30	Discounts on EVERY new PURCHASE! Free Float Downs Lender fees only \$399! CALL 888-90-HOMES
AlmLoan.com 888-411-4246 DRE# 01235124 Fees=\$2400	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.375 6.038...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...0.125 6.167...30	15-yr Fixed 5.500...0.125 5.729...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.250...0.750 5.364...30	Rates & Fees Online - Apply & Lock Online Guaranteed Rates & Fees - Conforming Fixed Up to \$400K!
AmeriSave Mortgage Corp. 877-464-5218 DOC# 6038592 Fees=\$1223	30-yr Fixed 5.875...0.500 5.966...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.500 6.448...30	3/1 ARM 5.000...0.500 6.603...30	5/1 ARM 5.250...0.500 6.441...30	No closing costs loans available www.amerisave.com.Best rates and lowest fees guaranteed or we pay you \$300!
CMG Mortgage Services 800-958-5339 DRE# 01370755 Fees=\$1853	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.250 5.901...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.000...1.375 6.161...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 5.375...1.000 5.488...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500...1.000 5.612...30	OPEN SAT & SUN. QUICK QUALIFIER OR NO INCOME LOANS AVAILABLE NO POINTS LOANS AVAILABLE
Countrywide Home Loans 510-444-4606	30-yr Fixed call...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call...	Pay Option ARM 1.000...0.000 4.930...30	10/1 ARM Jumbo call...	FREE pre-approval. Refinance/2nd homes 100% financing/ no docs/ stated income 1.00% start rates. Call Now!
ditech.com 800-816-8208 DOC# 8132004 Fees=\$1890	30-yr Fixed 5.750...2.000 5.851...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...2.000 6.110...30	15-yr Fixed 5.250...2.000 5.418...30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...2.000 5.891...30	Se habla Espanol. Your mortgage solution. Delivered! Apply now at ditech.com
Downey Savings & Loan 800-798-2148 DOC# 6037471 Fees=\$1428	30-yr Fixed 5.750...2.000 5.954...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...2.000 6.329...45	1-mo COFI ARM 1.250...1.000 5.898...45		Direct lender, 47 yrs experience; fixed & adjust rate mtgs; *Pot. neg. amort Apply online at www.downeysavings.com
Emortgages.com 800-819-4400 DRE# 01141472 Fees=\$1837	30-yr Fixed 6.125...0.000 6.190...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250...0.000 6.300...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.625...0.000 5.850...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 5.375...0.000 5.850...30	No closing costs HELOC's and Fixed 2nd's No closing costs refinance Interest only for non-owner, 2nd homes
First Blackhawk Financial 800-798-MARY DRE# 01144055 Fees=\$1271	30-yr Fixed 6.125...0.000 6.219...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.470...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.875...0.000 5.918...30	10/1 ARM Jumbo 6.125...0.000 6.168...30	JUMBO AND SUPER JUMBO SPECIALIST Call 7 days per week (1800) 798-MARY More rates at www.maryfintell.com
Golden Gate Home Loans 877-246-5899 DOC# 6052720 Fees=\$1632	30-yr Fixed 6.000...0.000 6.091...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.408...30	5/1 ARM 5.625...0.000 5.834...30	Pick-A-Payment*** 1.000...0.000 5.000...30	OPEN DAILY 8AM-8PM ***Pot Neg Am/ PMT on \$500K=\$1608
Imperial Mortgage 800-901-2274 DRE# 0103932 Fees=\$1453	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.000 5.840...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...1.000 6.249...30	3/1 ARM I/O 4.875...1.000 5.070...30	5/1 JUMBO ARM I/O 5.500...1.000 5.690...30	DON'T BE "LURED IN" BY LOW QUOTES! CALL ME FOR AN HONEST LOCKABLE RATE! FIND OUT WHY I GET TONS REFERRALS! I'M HERE NOW!
Los Gatos Lending Connection 866-680-0957 DRE# 01220999 Fees=\$1945	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.500 5.870...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250...0.000 6.320...30	10/1 80% C/O 6.375...0.000 6.560...30	3/1 I/O TO 1 MIL 5.500...0.000 6.410...30	Fx pay 5/1 ARM 1.75% apr 6.50 Neg Am 10/1 75%Cash out to 1mil 6.375% apr 6.50 80% Stated pur 65% Refi to 1M.
Main Line-Tavistock Mtge. 877-876-3600 DOC# 603 A784 Fees=\$1296	30-yr Fixed 6.000...0.000 6.069...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...0.000 6.152...30	20-yr Fixed 5.875...0.000 5.966...30	15-yr Fixed 5.625...0.000 5.739...30	BEST RATE AND FEE GUARANTEE NO APP OR LOCK FEE. MAINLINE/NATIONAL COM EMPLOYEE PRICING FOR ALL CUSTOMERS
Mid Atlantic Capital 888-638-1819 DOC# 6038609 Fees=\$1925	30-yr Fixed 5.825...2.000 5.780...35	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.875...1.750 5.960...35	15-yr Fixed 6.125...2.000 6.330...35	MTA 1.000...1.000 4.880...30	A-B-C-D CREDIT OK. BK13 AND FORECLOSURE OK. STATED TO 100% AVAILABLE. CASHOUT & DEBT CONS SPECIALIST. *pot neg am
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE# 0087562 Fees=\$1875	30-yr Fixed 5.750...1.000 5.933...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.125...1.000 6.258...30	15-yr Fixed 5.375...0.500 5.604...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.250...1.000 5.427...30	Great Purchase, Refinance, Construction, Home Equity, 100% LTV Loans Great Service, Over 25 years in Business
Saratoga Bancorp 800-935-8286 DRE# 01220328 Fees=\$1893	30-yr Fixed call...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call...	5/1 ARM Jumbo call...	5/1 ARM call...	Call for 1.50% ARM. All Credits. No Purch/Refi to 100%. saratogabancorp.com
Venstar Financial 866-580-6771 DRE# 01400745 Fees=\$1155	30-yr Fixed 6.000...0.000 6.230...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250...0.000 6.295...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.625...0.000 5.880...30	2/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...0.000 5.000...30	100% financing full doc or stated income Commercial loans for 5+ units, mixed use Fixed 2nd loan rate as low as 6.15%
Washington Mutual Home Loan 925-256-7171 Fees=\$1149	30-yr Fixed call...	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call...	5/5 ARM Jumbo call...	10/1 ARM Jumbo call...	Purchase/Close in just 7 days/NO POINTS Complimentary Pre-Approvals/NO POINTS (925) 256-7171 (888) WAMU-296

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Rates based on \$175,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$359,650) based on \$450,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but cannot be guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each company for details. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance if required. Lock-rate/lock period. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. *Ave 30 yr fixed conforming with 0 points Fees are estimated costs based on a \$175,000 purchase money loan and may vary from loan to loan. These are not inclusive of all costs and do not include points, prepaid interest, title insurance or escrow items. Click on "Fees" in "Current Mortgage Rates" section of website * contact each company for details. Copyright 2003, INFOTRAK National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

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Wendmere Real Estate



Rare "F" Model Townhouse on Bay Farm Island

This gorgeous home has 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and a great view. This spacious room faces a garden setting flooded with light. The kitchen and baths have been refurbished, and the home is move-in ready. The perfect home for entertaining, or just enjoying a more elegant spaciousness. Close to Alameda's best schools, shopping, transportation, and shoreline. Open Sunday 11/6-11/7 1-4. Or call Peter Fletcher for showing. Asking \$574,000



Call PETER FLETCHER
@ 510-521-1177

Wendmere
Properties of the East Bay

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5 SANDERLING CT, ALAMEDA
5-year-old SFR in a quiet and convenient community, 3 bed 2.5 bath, 2 car garage, hardwood floors, landscaped yard, custom window treatment, high ceilings. Walk to all conveniences. Very motivated seller. Open Sun 1-4. \$650,000

1125 BISHOP ST, EAST END OF ALAMEDA
Beautiful expanded 4 bed 2 bath home on a quiet street in East End. Sunny living room, formal dining room and a big kitchen. Polished hardwood floors. A large 1 car garage with huge basement. Yard with a garden. \$710,000

19750 SPRAQUE CT, CASTRO VALLEY
Completely updated 4+ bed 2 bath house that includes brand new hardwood floors, carpets & paints. Extra large master bedroom boasts a retreat area, a fireplace and a spacious bath with Jacuzzi tub, walk-in closet & a deck. Family room and office plus a large corner lot. Open Sat & Sun 1-4. \$798,000

3111 LA CAMPANIA, BAY FARM OF ALAMEDA
Beautiful 4 bed 2.5 bath townhome in Casas on Bay Farm. Updated kitchen & bath, landscaped courtyard, new double pane windows, ceiling fans and large living room. 2 car garage. Open Sat & Sun 1-4. \$865,000

IN THE FIRST HALF OF 2005
I SAVED MY HOME SELLERS
\$453,597 IN COMMISSIONS
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(510) 522-9888

The plant food provides nutrients all winter long and makes a second application in February. Pre Seeder Weeder, Weed Stopper or Impede can be applied right over the top of the seasonal color to control the dormant weed seeds.

Q. How would I force bulbs in containers? What type of soil do I use and should a novice gardener attempt this?

A. Forcing bulbs in container is a gardening project for people of all ages and skills. It's easy to do with a high degree of success. For the home gardener, Paperwhite Narcissus and hyacinth are the best bulbs for forcing.

You will need to chill the hyacinths for six weeks before planting. This process is not necessary for the Paperwhite Narcissus. Water is the primary medium while a commercial grower will use sand. You will need a shallow container or saucer and polished rocks or pebbles. Set the bulbs are set on the pebbles and add water. Be sure that

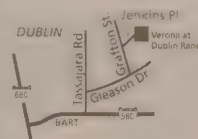
See BUZZ, Page B18



Model Grand Opening This Weekend

Settle for *Everything*

Everything is what you'll love about Verona at Dublin Ranch – including stunning architecture with style and personality, a location convenient for commuters and fun-lovers alike, and the sheer beauty of park-like, master-planned surroundings. Choose from five 3- to 5-bedroom floorplans (2,940 to 4,038 sq. ft.), priced from the low \$1,000,000s. Sales office is open daily 10-5, except Wednesday 1-5.

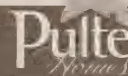


(925) 828-7803 • www.pulte.com

Verona The Homes. The Life. The Location.



Prices effective as of publication; map not to scale. Photograph taken of similar floorplan at a Pulte community.



Sheri Madden presents

New Listing

Open Sundays November 6 and November 13
2:00-4:30



6099 N. Arlington Blvd, Richmond View

Unincorporated Area bordering El Sobrante

Unincorporated Area bordering El Sobrante. 3 bedroom 2 bath mid-century home on a private 1/4 acre lot. Spectacular panoramic views, master bedroom with hillside deck and handsome updated kitchen. Wonderful access to hiking and biking trails. Regional Parks, shopping and freeways.

\$595,000

Sheri Madden (510) 524-3840

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Open

1234 SF, Golden Gate, Bay Area. Mt. Tam & Bay panoramic views. Ultra-private gated retreat. Mediterranean & mission elements. 12667 Skyline Blvd. Open Sun 2-4:30. Nicholas & J. Dworzak (510) 339-8900

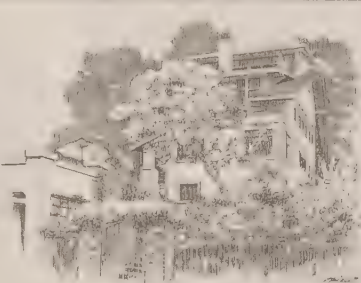


Alameda

\$1,925,000

4BR/3BA. This stunning Victorian remodel has a fabulous master suite including 2BR/2BA. Au Pair. Features including a custom kit, high ceilings, hwd flrs, garden w/spa & parking.

Andrea Gordon (510) 339-8900



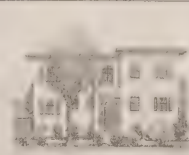
North Berkeley

\$1,395,000

Open

4BR/2.5BA. Delightful North Berkeley craftsman. Each room looks out on lush greenery. Large eat in kitchen, family room, library, Atelier, and 3 fireplaces all on coveted cul-de-sac!

84 San Mateo Rd.
Open Sun 2-4:30PM
Miriam Wilson
510-339-8900



Berkeley

\$1,495,000

4 Units. Best Elmwood location. 2-2 bed units, 2-1 bed units. Formal dining rms, fireplaces, lush garden, basement, laundry. Ideal TIC, owners plus income.

Miriam Wilson (510) 339-8900



Lake Merritt

\$635,000

2BR/2BA. The 7th floor of this landmark building offers this condo with panoramic views from every room. Gleaming parquet floors, a massive wood burning fireplace & spacious rooms. 24 hr doorman/valet services. Call for showing appointment.

Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900



Montclair

\$849,000

5BR/4.5BA. Refurb contempor. w/ canyon views. Vaulted ceilings, hwd flrs. Updtd kit. & baths. Remodeled from 2002 to 2005. Multiple decks. 2 car gar. Lower level has 2BR/1BA.

7260 Homewood Dr.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Andrea Gordon (510) 339-8900

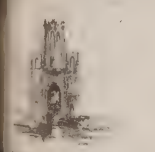


Alameda

\$589,000

2BR/1BA. Darling Craftsman w/ amazing details. Stained glass, built-ins, box beam ceilings, gorgeous wood trim. Terrific remodeled kitchen and bath. Secret lovely garden. Close to everything.

Andrea Gordon (510) 339-8900

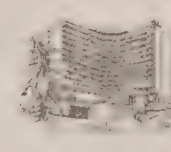


Lake Merritt

\$635,000

2BR/2BA. 6th flr of Lake Merritt's landmark high rise w/ pano views w/ every rm. This move-in cond fr has parquet flrs, fireplace, & updt kitchen & bath. Call for showing appointment.

Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900



Lake Merritt

\$675,000

3BR/2BA. 40' terrace offers sweeping views of Lake Merritt & East Bay Hills. This co-op has a 1774 sq ft fr plan w/ gleaming parquet floors thru-out, a state-of-art brand new kit, & a decorative fireplace in spacious living room. Call for showing appt.

Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900



Oakland

\$525,000

2BR/1BA. Charming 1923 Bungalow w/ dining room, living room, fireplace, deck, carport, decorator paint inside, hwd flrs. Ready to move into.

2320 Eastman Ave.
Open Sun 1-4:00
Keith D. Rapp (925) 314-1500

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6211 La Salle Avenue • Montclair
510.339.8900



Ivy Hill

\$499,000

2BR/1BA. Perched on Oakland's Ivy Hill. This home features city views & charming 1920's detail. hwd flrs & frpic. Recently painted kit. Cozy bkfst nook & FDR. Lndscpd bkdyd.

630 E. 21st St.
Open Sun 2-4:30
Victor Fierro (510) 339-8900



El Cerrito

\$489,950

2BR/1BA. Come on by & take a look at this freshly painted move in condition bungalow in central EC. LR w/ frpic, FDR, hwd flrs, det. gar. and lots more.

1332 Richmond St.
Open Sun 2-4:30PM
Nick Lavrov (510) 339-8900

ANVILLE • LAFAYETTE • LIVERMORE • MONTCLAIR



Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home.

Buzz

FROM PAGE B17

the water level is just below the base of the bulb to avoid rotting. Although the bulbs are loose to begin with, roots will form quickly and anchor the bulbs in the container.

The container can grow in direct or indirect light. You should see shoots developing within four to six weeks and flowers after that. Although, you purchase your bulbs all at one time, they don't all have to be planted. Use a two- to three-week gap between plantings to extend the blooming season.

Buzz Bertolero is executive vice president of Navlet's Garden Centers and a California Certified Nursery Professional. His Web address is www.dirtgardener.com and you can send questions by email at dirtgardener@aol.com or to 360 Civic Drive Ste. D, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Picturesque Montclair Setting!

This lovely Montclair home offers a delightful sense of seclusion while still being convenient to the Village. 2BD/2BA, classy new kitchen, wonderful porch & patio, wooded grounds & 2 car attached garage! \$659,000.



Open Sunday

Call 510/526-4336 for more information!

Northbrae Properties

1600 Hopkins Street, Berkeley 94707 • 510/526-4336 • www.northbrae.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This wonderful home is situated on over an acre of land that offers privacy and seclusion. Features include four bedrooms, three baths including a master suite, hardwood floors, a gourmet kitchen with a large island and eat-in area, a separate artist studio, landscaped gardens, three stall stable for horses and a two-car garage. Offered at \$1,180,000



13300 Skyline Boulevard
Oakland

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GRUBBCO.COM

KURT BUCHHOLZ
Office: 510.339.0400/221
buchholz@grubbco.com



2002 Thompson Lane - El Sobrante - \$579,000

Open
Sunday
2-4PM



Country retreat nestled on a private lane! This spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath home features an oversized living room, open kitchen, large master suite with walk-in closet. All on an expansive lot with room for gardening, play & entertaining on the trellised flagstone patio. Extra space in the finished basement great for guest room, home gym or office

Alexis Greenberg
(510) 381-3232

marvin
gardens



COMING SOON

Piedmont

Move right in to this 3+ bedroom 2+ bath Piedmont home conveniently located near Beach Elementary & Piedmont Avenue. Eat-in kitchen/family, formal dining, yard with deck & lawn.

Offered at \$1,039,000



Dian Hymer, CRS
Associate Broker
Previous Property Specialist
510-339-4777
Photo Tours At:
dianhymer.com

COLDWELL BANKER

Open Sunday 1-4



4370 Whittle

Urban oasis with HUGE VIEWS. Features include a Great Room with soaring ceilings and loads of natural light. A Media Room with surround sound and a great indoor outdoor flow.

Offered at \$839,000



Becky Andersen
510-339-4755
www.californiamoves.com
beckyandersen@earthlink.net

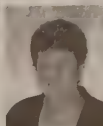
COLDWELL BANKER

Just Listed - Open Sunday 2:00 to 4:00



3933 Oakmore Road, Oakland • Listed at \$750,000

This charming Traditional Oakmore home has it all - random plank hardwood floors, living room with a fireplace, dining room with dramatic beamed ceiling, 3 bedrooms, baths, light and bright breakfast room and a rumpus room. All this in addition to a level yard and backyard that backs up to Sausal Creek.



Terry Kulka
510-339-4789
300 Houses Sold - Experience Counts

COLDWELL BANKER

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CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR AT 510-748-1655
OR E-MAIL DEVANOSKY@CCTIMES.COM.

NANSCAPE **NANSCAPE** } REALTOR
nancy reichert

Spacious Traditional with Spectacular Garden!
1987 El Dorado, Berkeley
Open Sunday 11/6 & 11/13 2-5pm
\$849,000

A Rare Find! Warm and inviting Traditional WITH a large, mature garden! Gorgeous, sun-filled kitchen renovated with maple and tile opens to deck and garden. Smart 3 bedroom bath floor plan with incredibly spacious rooms, charming details, and quality upgrades throughout.

Private and Special Garden! The oversized lot is filled with fruit trees, flowers, and a secret playhouse. Just minutes to Solano, Gourmet, Gheto, transportation, and all Berkeley's favorite amenities!

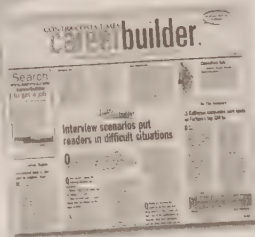


See photos at www.nanscape.com
or call Nancy Reichert
COLDWELL BANKER
1495 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA 94709
510-981-3018

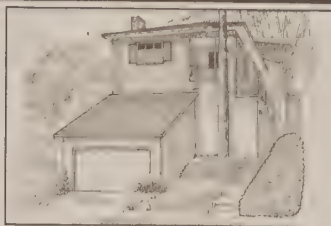
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NANSCAPE@YAHOO.COM

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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 PM



3976 Fruitvale - Upper Diamond

Upper Fruitvale contemporary with bungalow ambience, smartly updated to enhance flow and functionality. Main living level includes 3 bedrooms, a revitalized full bath, an updated and reconfigured eat-in kitchen. Lower level, accessible from within or via separate entry, provides plus rooms - laundry and a 2nd updated bath. Wood floors, new lighting fixtures and fresh paint inside and out complete the picture. All this and a fenced yard with patio and garden areas.

Offered at \$649,000



Nayo Family Partners
Lydia Nayo & Kelley Nayo-Cliett
510-339-4728
californiamoves.com



1099 ARDMORE



Spacious and light Crocker traditional on oversized lot! Grand foyer, stately living room, formal dining room, family room, library, office, sunroom and large kitchen. Four bedrooms, including master suite with sitting room and dressing room upstairs. Built in 1917, with many original details still in place. In area with underground utilities, minutes from Grand Lake Shopping, transportation options, and more. With some TLC, some updating, this could be a jewel.

Offered at \$1,195,000

Nayo
Family Partners
510-339-4728



Reva Tolbert
510-339-4761

COLDWELL BANKER

www.CaliforniaMoves.com

Berkeley 510.486.1495 • Oakland 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

OAKLAND HILLS \$3,800,000
2.5 BA Equestrian facility w/4
bath qtrs, 60 stalls for horses, 2
baths w/ covered. Main house is a
masterpiece w/2 kits. All redone.
Amy Ackerman 510.339.4700

CERRITO \$1,500,000
3 BR 3 BA Unique home: 5000 sq ft.
1000+ lot. Pool. Views: SF, GG &
course. Grand scale.
Amy Ackerman 510.486.1495

MONTECLAIR \$1,450,000
3 BR 4 BA Built in 2003. 30-ft foyer,
grand stairway, epicurean kitchen,
tile flrs, MBS w/ spa bath. Piedmont
view. Montclair. www.5555Moraga.com
Joyce 510.339.4700

BAYVIEW \$850,000
3 BR 2.5 BA 2 story Penthouse. Open
plan area and kit, hw flrs; SF Views.
www.555Pierce1339.com
Reza Bagherzadeh 510.486.1495



CERRITO \$649,000
3 BR 2 BA Walk to BART. Warm,
bright, approx. 1,637 sq. ft. Patio, Nr
shopping. www.BarbaraLevy.net
Barbara Levy 510.486.1495

ALBANY \$399,000
3 BR 1 BA Handyman special: lg, bright
open kit, DR, LR w/ Frpl, sun porch,
2-car grg.
Barbara Knight 510.486.1495

OPEN HOUSES



BERKELEY HILLS \$3,250,000
3 BR 2 BA San Luis Rd.
3 BR 2 BA Asian Craftsman fusion.
rm/cathedral ceilings, splendid
grounds, gym, Bay & GG views.
Barbara Knight 510.486.1495

OPEN HOUSES

MONTECLAIR \$1,600,000
2100 Arrowhead Sun 1 - 4
4 BR 3.5 BA New construction. Grnt
kit w/SS appliances & Alder cabinets,
frml LR/DR, fam rm, master ste
David Eckert 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$1,495,000
11439 Lochard Sun 1:30 - 4
6 BR 3.5 BA Breathtaking SF vu
setting. Elegant Chabot Hglds trdml.
Grt lawns, 3c gar, isld kit.
Diana Kay 510.486.1495

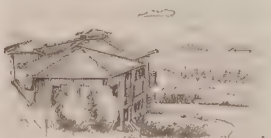


PIEDMONT \$1,475,000
34 LaSalle Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Red. \$120k! Custom 1-lvl
hme w/spacious, sunny rms, soaring
ceilings, sunshine & privacy.
George Karsant 510.339.4700
Julie Joyce



MONTECLAIR \$1,475,000
175 Villanova Sun 1 - 4
4 BR 3.5 BA Hilltop retreat! Spanish
Med w/ style! Fab kit, tranquil vistas,
lvl yrd, great flr plan.
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

MONTECLAIR \$1,425,000
6267 Ruthland Rd Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 3.5 BA Revel in style in this
contempo with city-light views.
Family room.
Alicia Drake 510.339.4700



KENSINGTON \$1,400,000
145 Lawson Rd. Sun 2 - 4:30
4+ BR 4 BA VIEWS! Grt floor plan.
Approx 3900 sq ft Single Fam. w/au-
pair/duplex. www.145Lawson.com
Barb Allendorf
Tania Balazs-Gvishi 510.486.1495

OPEN HOUSES

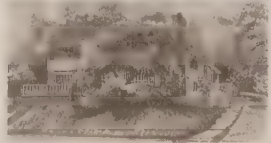
MONTECLAIR \$1,295,000
6171 Ruthland Rd Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 BA Indoor/outdoor living from
fam rm & kit serene setting on large
parcel
Joan Duffield 510.339.4700



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,195,000
1099 Ardmore Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3.5 BA Stately Crocker
traditional on oversized lot. Needs
some TLC to become an absolute
jewel.
Nayo Family
Reva Tolbert 510.339.4700



OAKLAND HILLS \$1,180,000
125 Crestmont Sun 2 - 4:30
5 BR 3.5 BA New construction w/
HUGE views. Gourmet kit w/custom
cabinetry, granite & SS. Lavish MBS
Preston Grant 510.339.4700



BERKELEY HILLS \$1,125,000
781 Spruce Sun 2 - 4
4 BR 3 BA Totally remod mid century
home. Bay view. Hdwd, lrg fam rm, 2
car gar, huge deck. Lrg lot.
Diane Southworth 510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$849,000
1987 El Dorado Sun 2 - 5
3 BR 1 BA Warm, inviting Traditional
w/magical garden! Quality
Renovations! Pics @
www.nanscape.com
Nancy Reichert 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$839,000
4370 Whittle Sun 1 - 4
3 BR 3 BA Urban oasis w/huge views.
Soaring cathedral ceiling in Grt Rm.
Media RM w/surround sound.
Becky Andersen 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES

UPPER GLENVIEW \$799,000
4630 San Sebastian Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Full Finished Basement. To
see photos go to:
www.4630sansebastian.com
CJ Boydston/Terry Anthony
510.339.4700

HERCULES \$750,000
1015 Craftsman Dr Sat/Sun 1 - 4
3 BR 2.5 BA Victoria By the Bay!
Upgraded KIT, LR w/FRPL, MSTR BR,
2-car garage, nr shops & trans.
Gene Della Maggiora 510.486.1495

LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$687,000
168 Maiden Lane Sun 2 - 5
3 BR 2 BA Spacious flr pln, 3/2 incl
mstr ste on 1 lvl, kit/fam rm lvl-out to
patio/grdn. Vu
Rachel Baller 510.339.4700

SOUTH BERKELEY \$649,000
3216 Ellis Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Renovated Victorian.
Lovely bkyrd, FDR/LR, high ceilings,
sep entry dnwnstr
Gary & Noni Robinson 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$599,950
3949 Cerrito Sun 2 - 4:30
Hardwood floors and carpet. Vaulted
ceiling/skylight disclosures packets
available
Reva Tolbert 510.339.4700

BERKELEY \$599,000
1228 Stannage Ave Sun 1 - 4
2 BR 1.5 BA Light-filled & remodeled
charmer has HW flrs & great yard.
Plus room could be 3rd BR.
Marilyn Garcia 510.486.1495

LOWELL MAXWELL \$599,000
4908 Fairfax Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 1 BA 2-story craftsman w/Frml
DR, FP in LR, granite ctips in kit, front
& back yrd. City views.
Gary & Noni Robinson 510.339.4700

MAXWELL PARK \$595,000
3406 Wyman St. Sun 2 - 5
3 BR 3 BA Urban chic, friendly
Maxwell Park. Upgrades, fab yard, in/
outdoor living. Private, oasis.
Karyn Selby-Miller 510.339.4700

ALAMEDA \$569,000
1165 Island Dr. Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2.5 BA Sunny and spacious Bay
Farm townhouse located near pool,
clubhouse, golfing and more!
Leslie Wei
James Brown 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES

ADAMS POINT \$549,000
490 Jean St Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA City views, deck, hwd flrs,
remod kit & ba, frml DR, and a
beautiful fireplace
Gary & Noni Robinson 510.339.4700

DIMOND \$529,000
3540 Wilson Ave Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA Wonderful craftsman-era
home with many wonderful period
details and sensible floor plan
Jeffrey Neideman 510.339.4700

MAXWELL PARK \$520,000
5456 Brookdale Sun 1:30 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA Charming Craftsman
Shingle. Prepare to fall in love w/ this
lovely home
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

PARKWOODS \$519,000
280 Caldecott Lane 109 Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA Sharp condo in private
setting. Near bus stop & hwy 24. For
photos: 280Caldecott109.com
Karen Lum 510.339.4700

TEMESCAL \$499,000
527 43rd Street Sun 2 - 5
2 BR 1 BA Art studio, eat-in kitchen,
formal dining room w/frplc, LR,
garden & patio
Adele M. Wong 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$499,000
531 55th Street Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Fab starter home! Dual
pane win., upgraded kit & elec, new
paint, hw flrs, & tons of space
Dan Joy 510.339.4700

OAKMORE \$499,000
3933 Oakmore Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Lovely home on a lg lot
features hwd flrs, beamed ceilings,
frml DR, rumpus & breakfast rm
Darcy Diamantine 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$499,000
418 38th St Sun 1 - 4:30
4 BR 2 BA Spacious lower Oakmore
gem w/ original charm, and lrg back
yrd. Bring renovation vision!
Catherine Yarnan 510.486.1495

BERKELEY \$499,000
2763 Dohr St Sun 2 - 4
2 BR 1 BA Cute Berkeley Bungalow!
Light, bright w/many upgrades.
HDWD, FDR, updated KIT and
Systems.
Jackie Arvin 510.486.1495

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1495 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley



6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland

Keeping track of the latest reale estate activity? Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section on D4.

Things to do before buying a home

DETROIT FREE PRESS

Here is some advice from owners and experts:

■ **Be sure of the neighborhood.** "Check out the neighborhood in the morning, day and evening, and be sure to talk to neighbors," Detroit homeowner Jonathan Burt said.

■ **If you have bad credit, fix it.** National City Mortgage spokeswoman Annemarie Rogers recommended contacting the Safe Community Homebuyers Program, a nonprofit counseling agency, at 313-963-5300, for help.

■ **Ask about appreciation and resale opportunities.** A Realtor can help with this, says GMAC Real Estate representative Mark Johnson. You can find one through the National Association of Realtors at www.Realtor.com.

■ **Make sure you have a stable, well-paying job.** said Wayne State University professor George Calster.

■ **Read up on home-buying tips and mortgages.** A good place to start is at www.dummies.com.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.



East End Tudor
4 Bedroom/2.5 Bath
\$749,000

3116 Washington Street
Alameda, CA

Open Saturday and Sunday
2:00 - 4:30

Tudor in the desirable East End. Hardwood floors. Leaded glass windows and a vintage tile fireplace are the focal points of the large living room. Host your holiday gatherings in the formal dining room. A sunny breakfast nook complements morning coffee. Large master w/updated bath. Remodeled family room leads to a manicured back yard. Attached single car garage with interior access.

bayside real estate
1612 Santa Clara Ave
Alameda, CA 94601



Call or e-mail Quinn Stone
510 - 326 - 9697
quinn@bayside-realestate.com

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620 Sea View Drive

Fabulous bay views, 3 bedroom, 2 baths, move-in condition, approx. 1,688 sq. ft., new interior paint, new car garage, and new kitchen flooring.

\$649,950

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3 New Listings



RETIRING!

#194-Check out this lovely 2 bdrm home w/Florida Room on Greenbelt. Vaca Valley's - Leisure Town, lots of activities and relaxed "Life-Style". Details call 232-0281

\$345,000



2424 BUSH AVE., RICHMOND

#380-Beautifully well maintained home with updates. New bathroom tile floors, kitchen and dining room tile, granite counter top, new carpet & new paint inside & out. Move in condition

\$475,000



2207 HAVENBROOK BLVD., OAKLAND

#382-Wonderful charming home! Upgraded, totally remodeled kitchen and bathroom w/whirlpool tub, refinished hardwood floors. Newer roof, spacious living room w/fireplace.

\$429,900

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Refreshments provided**

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(510) 380-6010 • valerie@bhremerybay.com

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House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first.

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Exceptional quality, design and details in this elegant Upper Rockridge Mediterranean. Four generously proportioned bedrooms, three and one half baths (including master suite), hardwood floors, kitchen/family room views & location! Hillcrest School District access to Lake Temescal
Offered at \$1,675,000



6040 Contra Costa Road
Upper Rockridge

TRICA SWIFT
Office: 510.339.0400/333
tsswift@grubbco.com



The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. The focal point of this mostly one-level home is the stunning kitchen/family room with a second fireplace. Enjoy the view of the Golden Gate and Bay Bridges from most of the public rooms. This four bedroom home has a level-out patio and a bonus room below.
Offered at \$1,395,000



6333 Fairlane Drive, Oakland

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

STEVE MICHAELIDES
Office: 510.339.0400/242
smichaelides@grubbco.com



The GRUBB Co.

PREVIEW OF A COMING ATTRACTION.
THE WEBSTER FAMILY TRI-PLEX

A Claremont landmark of three beautifully detailed units built in 1925.
Never before offered for sale.
Offered at \$1,700,000



36,38 & 40 Domingo Avenue
Berkeley

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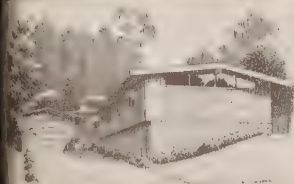
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510..652.2133/413
ptempleton@grubbco.com

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www.wellsandbennett.com

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00PM - 4:30PM

BY APPOINTMENT



4717 PINEHAVEN ROAD \$1,150,000
Montclair. Tahoe setting. Four bedrooms, three bath all on one level. Four car garage with full bath and utilities. 1/3 acre.
Fred Perkins 531-7000 x282

3071 CURRAN AVENUE \$850,000
Oakland. Quiet suburban like five plex built in 1964. All two bedrooms, one bath, approximately 1800 sq.ft. Central heating, double ovens, on site parking and laundry.
Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258



1600 MILVA STREET \$750,000
North Berkeley. Great investment opportunity! 3BD/2.5BA split level house with hot tub and private deck. Close to CAL. Perfect for 1st time buyers or investor wanting to rent. Fabulous location and great price!
Beth DeAtley 531-7006 x234



20 HILLCREST COURT \$699,000
Oakland Hills. This 2000+ sq.ft. town home features a wonderful open floor plan with a great bay view. Completely private from neighbors with granite counters and stainless steel appliances in the kitchen, very high end. Huge lower level with separate room for washer/dryer and 3 spacious BD. Fireplace in living room. Two car garage.
Erika Uribe 531-7000 x272
Also Open Saturday November 5th, 2-4:30

1735 LEIMERT BLVD. \$689,000
Oakmore. Exceptional 2+BD/1BA home with bay views in great neighborhood! Bonus room, vintage kitchen, hardwood floors through out, formal dining room, fireplace, plus a private backyard and professional landscaping. Must See!
Tracy Butler 531-7000 x232



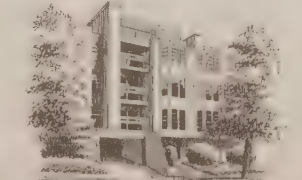
3236 CAMBRIDGE PLACE \$678,000
Concord. Charming 4BD/2BA mid-century home remodeled in 2003. Level-in and level living on a 12,700 sq.ft. lot. New kitchen, master, formal dining room and more! Near BART, community park and a bike path.
Jeff Hilgert 531-7000 x214



16058 CAMBRIAN DRIVE \$565,000
San Leandro. Enjoy this 3BD/2BA home with marvelous views. The spacious living room with fireplace has random plank hardwood. Family room leads out to backyard with deck and patio. TLC will make this a gorgeous home. Double garage with extra storage. Must See!
Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292



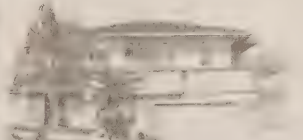
3469 COOLIDGE \$558,000
Oakland. California bungalow. 3BD/2BA, den, updated kitchen, baths, laundry, hardwood and tiled floors. Two car garage converted to home office. A Must See!
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



500 VERNON #115 \$325,000
Rose Garden. Beautiful 1BD/1BA completely upgraded with lovely granite kitchen counters, beautiful hardwood floors, unit is on 2nd floor of the building. Near shops and freeways and public transportation.
Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

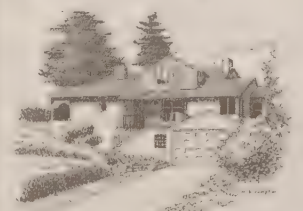
JACK LONDON SQUARE WAREHOUSE

\$2,498,000
Oakland-Jack London. Corner property 13,925 sq.ft. Clear span, four docks, two ramps. Buildable approximately 60 units.
Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258



INCREDIBLE VALUE IN UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,150,000
Upper Rockridge. Over 3560 sq.ft. of quality construction, 3+BD/2.5BA, sophisticated design, open floor plan with many fine custom features.
Chris Christensen 531-7000 x242

STUNNING CONTEMPORARY/COTTAGE MIX \$895,000
Montclair. Central-Montclair locale on 12,600 sq.ft. lot. Updated kitchen, 3BD/3BA plus large recreation room with kitchenette and bath. In-law/office potential. Hardwood floors, fresh paint, two-car garage.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



MONTCLAIR TRADITIONAL \$759,000
Montclair. Bring out charm in this 1938 gem. 3BD/1BA large living, formal dining, large eat-in kitchen, Wedgwood stove, updated electrical, roof 6-years old (approx.) large lot, two patios, garage with inside access.
Jaya Bhimani 531-7000 x289

OAKLAND UNITS
5 Units-All 2BRs-1961 yr built. \$850,000
6 Units-2BRs, 4-1BRs-1962 yr built \$875,000
4 Units-Downtown Victorian \$839,000
8 Units-China Town, great flr plans \$1,475,000
Catherine Vallee 531-7006 x258

LAND FOR SALE

9.11 ACRES IN CORNING CA \$4,650,000
Commercial and residential zoned. Off I-5. Has five homes currently. Super development potential.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

36,700 SQFT/OAKLAND \$1,800,000
All level. Zoned M30. Near High Street and 880 freeway. Reports available.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

ALTURA \$465,000
Private gated estate. Bay view and utilities. Has two cabins.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

GRADED UPSLOPE LOT \$395,000
Hillier Highlands area, South view. Utilities, driveways.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

FAIRFAX \$198,000
Commercial upslope. 11750 sq.ft. top locale. Views.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MILL VALLEY \$195,000
Three lots. Downslope, utilities, drawings, repots.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MONTCLAIR UPSLOPE \$179,000
Utilities present in street. Excellent value.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

LAKE TAHOE OFFICE

SOPHISTICATED MOUNTAIN STYLE \$3,950,000

Tahoe. This is a custom 4BD/4.5BA mountain home built by a local builder. High ceilings, beautiful warm wood paneling, quartzite floors, granite counters and custom tile work in the kitchen and baths. Each BD has an attached full BA and there is an extra room that can be used as a game room. Office with lake view, for play you have a pier with boat lift and a buoy.
Jim Plumberge/Carla Werner 800-858-8463

EXECUTIVE RETREAT \$1,699,000
Tahoe. Lots of room to hang out in this spacious 5BD/5.5BA mountain home. Featuring, 3 mstr BD, den and a loft with extra storage areas. Living room has a stone fireplace, dining room, big sunny tiled deck. Bonus in-law unit with separate entrance.
Jim Plumberge/Carla Werner 800-858-8463

PARADISE FOUNTAIN \$899,000
Tahoe. Summer or Winter you have easy access to mountains and just steps to the beach. Features 3 comfortable BD/2 full BA, a warm living/dining area with a more ample kitchen. Master has French doors that open onto a private deck with lake and mountain views.
Carla Werner 800-858-8463

Cabins, Condos, and
Luxury Home Rentals
Available Now in Lake
Tahoe! 800-858-2463

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com



Alameda		
\$340,000	1170 9th Street #14	1BD/1 BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$409,000	2416 Marti Rae Ct	1 BD/1 BA Sat 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty
\$425,000	1701 Central Ave. #A	2 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey
\$425,000	960 Shorepoint Ct. #111	2BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$429,000	1233-C Broadway	3BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$499,000	330 Taylor Ave.	2BD/1BA Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$525,000	1596 Pacific Ave.	2 BD/1 BA Open Sun 2-4 Realty World
\$549,000	1724 Walnut St.	2 BD/1 BA Sun 2-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$555,000	301 Broadway #101	2BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$558,000	1006 Taylor Ave.	2BD/1BA Sun 2-4 West End Gallagher & Lindsey
\$562,000	1158 Marianas Ln.	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Island Harbor Bay Realty
\$565,000	3111 La Campana	4 BD/2.5 BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes
\$569,000	1165 Island Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$574,950	1122 Marianas	3BD/2.5BA Open Sun 1-4 Windermere Properties
\$575,000	2523 Webb Ave.	2BD/1BA Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$579,000	1804 Lincoln Ave.	2BD/1BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$579,000	250 Beach Rd.	2BD/1BA Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Bay Farm Harbor Bay Realty
\$579,500	3122 La Campana	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Harbor Bay Realty
\$583,000	3166 Fir Avenue	4BD/2.5BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Harbor Bay Realty
\$599,000	1843 8th St.	3BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$619,000	2022 High St. #D	2BD/2.5BA Sat/Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$639,000	3010 Otis Dr.	3BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$639,000	410 Laguna Ln.	3 BD/2.5 BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Harbor Bay Realty
\$665,000	1521 Minton	4 BD/2 BA Open Sun 2-4 Central Gallagher & Lindsey
\$679,000	513 Laguna Ln.	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2:30-4:30 Harbor Bay Harbor Bay Realty
\$688,000	5 Sanderling Ct.	3 BD/2.5 BA Sun 1-4 West End Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes
\$698,000	1033 Lewelling Ct.	Duplex Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$705,000	1109 Rosewood Dr.	3+ BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 Home-Link Real Estate
\$710,000	1053 Island Dr.	3BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Harbor Bay Realty
\$718,000	2064 San Jose Ave.	3 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$729,000	1804 Nason St.	4BD/1.5BA Sun 2-4 Central Gallagher & Lindsey
\$729,900	2626 Calhoun St.	3 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$735,000	1202 Ballena Blvd.	3 BD/3 BA Sun 2-4:30 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$740,000	1222 Porta Ballena	3 BD/2.5 BA Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty

Alameda		
\$749,000	3116 Washington St.	4 BD/2.5 BA Sun 2-4:30 Bayside Real Estate
\$750,000	1718 Lafayette St.	3 BD/2 BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$759,000	3229 Fairview Ave	3BD/2BA Open Sat & Sun 1-4 Keller Williams Realty
\$798,000	783 Buena Vista Ave.	2 BD/1+BA Open Sun 2-4 Fortuna Realty
\$820,000	1361 Eastshore Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$838,000	2900 Windsor Dr.	3 BD/3BA Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$843,000	2813 Bayview Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Sun 2-4:30 Alameda Realty
\$849,000	1305 Crown Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Sat/Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$869,000	1169 Hillery Way	4BD/2+BA Sat/Sun 1-5 FSBO
\$869,000	1701 Broadway	4 Units Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$875,000	1427 Grove Street	3BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey
\$899,000	3119 Marina Dr.	2BD/2BA Sat/Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$925,000	354 Tideway Dr.	2 BD/2.5 BA Sun 2-4 West End Harbor Bay Realty
\$949,000	3272 Central Ave	4 BD/2 BA + Cott. Sun 2-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$950,000	1333 Weber St.	4 BD/1.5 BA Sun 2-4:30 Bickley Real Estate
\$975,000	2854 Lincoln Ave.	3 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$999,000	2057 Alameda Ave.	4BD/3BA Sat 2-4 Central Harbor Bay Realty
\$1,185,000	2904 Gibbons Dr.	5BD/2.5BA Sun 1-4 East End Harbor Bay Realty
\$1,195,000	1626-1628 Alameda Ave.	Duplex Sun 2-4:30 Central Gallagher & Lindsey
\$1,590,000	1906 Alameda Ave.	3+ BD/2+BA Sun 2-4 Central Gallagher & Lindsey
\$2,190,000	26 Castlebar Pl.	4 BD/5.5 BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle Harbor Bay Realty
\$2,250,000	221 Creedon Cir.	4 BD/4 BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle Harbor Bay Realty
Alamo		
\$1,250,000	1917 Park Meadow Dr	3bd/2ba Open Sat/Sun 1-4 Prudential
Albany		
\$350,000	417 Evelyn #106	2BD/2BA Sun 2-4pm Security Pacific
\$400,000	417 Evelyn #103	2bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Security Pacific R.E.
\$410,000	555 Pierce St #240	2bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Berkeley Hills R.E.
\$429,000	988 Kains Ave	3bd/1ba Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$499,000	1137 Cornell	2+bd/1ba Sat/Sun 2-4 Prudential
\$549,950	922 Polk	3bd/1ba Open Sun 2:13-4 Security Pacific R.E.
\$559,000	520 Cornell Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$639,000	1010 Kains Ave	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun 1-4 Red Oak Realty
\$725,000	720 Evelyn	3bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Thornwall Prop.
\$775,000	1049 Ordway St	3bd/2ba Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential

Albany		
\$949,000	1451 Marin Ave	4+bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$995,000	796 Hillside Avenue	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
Antioch		
\$624,950	3920 Caples Ct.	4BD/3BA Open Sun, 1-4pm Re/Max Associates
Berkeley		
\$389,000	2486 Martin Luther King Jr Wy.	2BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker
\$395,000	866 61st St	2+bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Korman & Ng
\$459,000	2335 10th St	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$479,000	1740 9th St	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2:00-4:00 Barbara Wohl-Luttringer, Broker
\$495,000	1310 Poe St	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-5 Prudential
\$499,000	2763 Dohr St.	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
\$539,000	1814 Franklin Street	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$550,000	2526 California St	3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:40 Marvin Gardens
\$599,000	1228 Stannage Ave.	2+BD/1.5BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker
\$599,000	2067 Bonar St	3+bd/3ba Open Sun 2-5 Better Homes Montclair
\$645,000	1527 Tyler	3+bd/1+ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$649,000	3216 Ellis	3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$649,000	39 Del Mar Ave.	4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Maison Nouveau
\$650,000	740 Ensenada	3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Pacific Union Residential
\$679,000	1415 Holly Street	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$705,000	1305 Henry Street #A	2BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$719,000	643 Cragmont Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$745,000	5 Northgate Ave	3+bd/2ba Open Sun 1-4 Millstein & Associates
\$749,000	1381 Rose	3bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Thornwall Properties
\$749,000	1406 66th St	6bd/4ba Open Sun 1-4 (Duplex) Re/Max East Bay Hills
\$750,000	1600 Milva Street	3BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors
\$754,500	2932 Pine Ave	2+bd/2ba Open Sun 1-5 Prudential
\$799,000	1235 Stannage Ave	4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$799,000	2940 Pine Ave	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-5 Better Homes Montclair
\$829,000+	2209&2211 5th St	2+bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty
\$849,000	1987 El Dorado	3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-5 Coldwell Banker
\$850,000	1312 Oxford Street	-8BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$885,000	1032 Oxford St	4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$899,000	2027 Los Angeles Ave	4bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Thornwall Properties
\$895,000	733 Keeler Avenue	3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$895,000	904 Regal Road	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$899,000	744 Euclid Ave	4+bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Northbrae
\$925,000	923 Euclid	DUPLEX Open Sun 2-4 Millstein & Associates
\$1,005,000	2929 Benvenue	4+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$1,100,000	650 Colusa	4bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$1,125,000	781 Spruce	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
\$1,195,000	2808 Hilgard	4+BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 Pacific Union Residential
\$1,395,000	84 San Mateo	4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-5 C21 Heritage
\$1,400,000	863 Santa Barbara	4bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Millstein & Associates

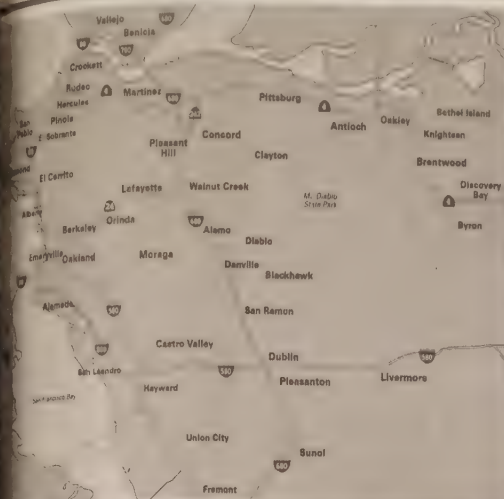
Berkeley		
\$1,450,000	7112 Marlborough Terrace 3+bd/3.5BA	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,495,000	1185 Glen Ave.	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Zip Realty
\$1,495,000	70 Vicente	3bd/2ba Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$1,595,000	669 Euclid Avenue	4+BD/3+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,750,000	233 Stonewall Road	4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,950,000	2887 Buena Vista Way	3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$3,250,000	768 San Luis Rd.	3+BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
Castro Valley		
\$798,000	19750 Sprague Ct.	5BD/2BA Sun 2-4 Help-U-Sell Alameda Homes
Concord		
\$330,000	3307 Northwood Dr. #C	2bd/1.5ba Open Sun 1-4 Marvin Gardens
\$678,000	3236 Cambridge Place	4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors
El Cerrito		
\$475,000	1233 Liberty St	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-5 Red Oak Realty
\$489,950	1332 Richmond St.	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Heritage Real Estate
\$499,000	2305 Mono Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Security Pacific
\$599,000	1244 Richmond St	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$899,000	2613 Yuba	3+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Security Pacific
\$935,000	1265 Contra Costa Dr	3bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
El Sobrante		
\$449,000	4661 White Sands Ct	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Better Homes
\$524,900	3433 Morningside Dr	3bd/1.5ba Open Sat/Sun 12-3 Keller Williams
\$529,000	910 St Andrews	3BD/1BA Open Sun 1-4 Pacific Union Residential
\$579,000	2002 Thompson Ln	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
Emeryville		
\$379,500	1121 40th St. #3401	1bd/1ba Open Sun 1:30-4 Red Oak Realty
\$494,950	59 Emerybay	3bd/2ba Open Sun 1-3 Security Pacific
\$499,000	4210 Adeline	3bd/2ba Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels
Fremont		
\$650,000	34261 Steine Court	3bd/2ba Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
Hayward		
\$379,000	27902 Thornton Ct.	2 BD/1.5 BA Open 2-4 Home-Link Real Estate
\$449,000	27682 Del Norte Ct.	3BD/2.5BA Sun 1-4 Harbor Bay Realty
\$579,000	1985 Catalpa	3bd/2ba Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
Hercules		
\$359,900	1402 Forest Run	2bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$750,000	1015 Craftsman Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Open Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker
Kensington		
\$675,000	727 Coventry	2bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 Bay Area Berkeley Properties
\$799,000	77 Stratford Avenue	3BD/1.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$849,000	293 Grizzly Peak Blvd.	3BD/2BD Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,075,000	312 Rugby Ave	3+bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Marvin Gardens R.E.
\$1,400,000	145 Lawson Rd.	4+BD/4BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$995,000	63 Corte Del Caballo	4bd/3.5ba Open Sun 1-4 Better Homes Montclair

Oakland		
\$309,000	2005 Pleasant Valley #313	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair
\$325,000	155 Pearl St. #105	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Commonwealth Co.
\$325,000	500 Vernon Street #115	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors
\$350,000	1517 76th Ave	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Montclair
\$369,000	1 Kelton Ct. #71	510-652-2133 Sat/Sun 2-5 Prudential
\$385,000	5890 Vallejo	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$395,000	200 Caldecott Ln #105	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential California Realty
\$395,000	260 Caldecott #208	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$399,000	10817 Packard	510-652-2133 Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$399,000	330 Park View Terrace #208	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$399,000	4117 Penniman Ave	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-5 Prudential CA Realty
\$409,000	4501 Howe St	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential CA Realty
\$413,000	760 Canyon Oaks, Unit G	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential
\$425,000	2315 64th Ave	510-652-2133 Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$429,900	2207 Havenscourt	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker Bartels
\$439,000	2424 Potter	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Thornwall Properties
\$440,000	5 W. Embarcadero #127	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
\$449,000	323 Monte Vista #312	510-652-2133 Sun 2-4 Help-U-Sell Action Properties
\$449,000	425 Orange St #217	510-652-2133 Assist-2-Sell
\$459,000	3416 Rhoda Ave	510-652-2133 Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$479,000	2124 Rosedale	510-652-2133 Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$479,000	5326 Trask Street	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$479,000	5343 Broadway Terrace #202	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential
\$492,500	2661 23rd Ave	510-652-2133 Sat/Sun 2-4:30 (Duplex) Prudential
\$499,000	1256 84th Ave	510-652-2133 Open Sun 1-4 Red Oak Realty
\$499,000	3750 Madrone Ave	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty
\$499,000	3905 Brookdale Ave	510-652-2133 Open Sun 1-4 Realty World East Bay
\$499,000	3933 Oakmore	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$499,000	418 38th St.	510-652-2133 Open Sun 1-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$499,000	527 43rd Street	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-5 Coldwell Banker
\$499,000	531 55th Street	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$499,000	630 E. 21st St.	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage
\$499,000	7916 Winthrop St	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty
\$499,000+	3220-3234 Linden St	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4 (Townhomes) Red Oak Realty
\$519,000	280 Caldecott Lane #108	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$525,000	9637 Thimble St.	510-652-2133 Open Sun 1-4 Bogan & Associates
\$529,000	3540 Wilson Ave.	510-652-2133 Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$529,000	3912 Vale	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens
\$535,000	4905 Walnut	510-652-2133 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

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Oakland			
\$850,000	3071 Curran Avenue	Five Plex	
Open Sun 2-4:30		531-7006 x258	
Wells & Bennett Realtors		Catherine Vallejo	
\$860,000	5115 Fairhill Court	3BD/2.5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Ridgemont	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Sherry Benninger	
\$885,000	3375 Herrier St	3bd/1.5ba	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Redwood Heights	510-339-9290	
Prudential		Patricia Makinen	
\$899,000	870 Sunnyhills Road	3BD/2BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Crocker Highlands	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Angela Wei Grubb	
\$999,000	93 Glen Ave	Fourplex	
Open Sun 1-4		510-995-7699	
Re/Max East Bay Hills		Dave Higgins	
\$949,000	1850 Arrowhead	3+BD/2+BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-338-1355	
Pacific Union Residential		Donna Costella	
\$949,000	6801 Gunn	4+BD/3B	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-338-1358	
Pacific Union Residential		Joan E. Hause	
\$955,000	701 Paloma Ave	3bd/2ba	
Open Sun 2-4		510-280-2162	
Red Oak Realty		Saraya Motley	
\$975,000	10828 Cameron	4BD/2.5BA	
Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30		510-569-3499	
Richardson Real Estate		Agent	
\$990,000	17066 Broadway Terrace	3bd/2.5ba	
Open Sun 1-5 Montclair		510-339-8400	
Better Homes Montclair		Michael Gallagher	
\$995,000	6380 Wood Drive	2BD/2BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Karen Starr	
\$1,050,000	6039 Ocean View	3BD/2.5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Rockridge	510-338-1318	
Pacific Union Residential		Dee Knowland	
\$1,150,000	6727 Pinehaven	4BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-531-7000 x282	
Wells & Bennett Realtors		Fred Perkins	
\$1,175,000	1027 Park Lane	4BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Crocker Highlands	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Nancy Lehrkind	
\$1,180,000	125 Crestmont	4BD/3.5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Oakland Hills	510-339-0400	
Coldwell Banker		Preston Grant	
\$1,180,000	13300 Skyline Boulevard	4BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Hillcrest Estates	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Kurt Buchholz	
\$1,185,000	6928 Bristol Drive	4+BD/4BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Claremont Hills	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		JIM Carrigan	
\$1,195,000	1099 Ardmore	4BD/3.5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Crocker Highlands	510-339-0400	
Coldwell Banker		Nayo Family/Reva Tolbert	
\$1,199,000	260 Park View Terrace	4plex	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Adams Point	510-338-1307	
Pacific Union Residential		Jeffrey Himmel	
\$1,239,000	14370 Skyline Boulevard	3BD/2.5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Oakland Hills	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Dana Cohen	
\$1,275,000	9 Woodside Glen Ct.	4BD/2.5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Mindy Scott	
\$1,295,000	6171 Ruthland Rd.	4BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-339-0400	
Coldwell Banker		Joan Duffield	
\$1,295,000	80 Skyway Lane	2+BD/2BA	
Open Sun 1-5	Oakland Hills	510-338-1334	
Pacific Union Residential		Jennie A. Flanigan	
\$1,350,000	1053 Sunnyhills Road	4BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Crocker Highlands	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Tricia Swift	
\$1,375,000	1955 Manzanita Dr	4bd/3ba	
Open Sun 1-4	Montclair	925-580-8801	
ZipRealty		Linnette Edwards	
\$1,395,000	6333 Fairlane Drive	3BD/2BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Oakland Hills	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Steve Michaelides	
\$1,399,000	6940 Charing Cross Rd.	3bd/3ba	
Open Sun 2-4	Oakland Hills	510-849-9900	
Maison Nouveau		Tony Finn	
\$1,425,000	6267 Ruthland Rd.	3BD/3.5BA	
Open Sun 1-4	Montclair	510-339-0400	
oldwell Banker		David Eckert	
\$1,475,000	175 Villanova	4BD/3.5BA	
Open Sun 1-5	Montclair	510-339-0400	
oldwell Banker		Donna Conroy	
\$1,475,000	6125 Pinewood Road	5BD/4BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Adam Betta	
\$1,495,000	11439 Lochard	6BD/3.5BA	
Open Sun 1:30-4	Coldwell Banker	510-486-1495	
oldwell Banker		Diana Kay	
\$1,559,000	6095 Fairlane Dr.	5BD/4.5BA	
Open 2-4:30	Montclair	510-748-1806	
Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc.		Debbie Budd	
\$1,595,000	2707 Camino Lenada	4+BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-338-1331	
Pacific Union Residential		David Ichikawa	
\$1,600,000	2100 Arrowhead	4BD/3.5BA	
Open Sun 1-4	Montclair	510-339-0400	
oldwell Banker		David Eckert	
\$1,674,000	5801 Buena Vista Avenue	4BD/3.5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Upper Rockridge	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Sandra Vogl	
\$1,675,000	6040 Contra Costa Road	-BD/3.5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Rockridge	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Jill Carrigan	
\$1,699,000	5747 Buena Vista Ave.	5+BD/3+BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Rockridge (Upper)	510-339-9290	
Prudential		Heidi Marchesotti	
\$1,750,000	5712 Country Club Dr	4bd/3ba	
Open Sun 2-5	Claremont Pines	510-845-0211	
Prudential		Barbara Hopper	
\$1,895,000	51 Lane Court	4BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Montclair	510-339-0400	
The Grubb Co.		Angela Wei Grubb	
\$1,895,000	6021 Acacia	4BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Upper Rockridge	510-338-1318	
Pacific Union Residential		Dee Knowland	
\$2,275,000	12667 Skyline Blvd.	4+BD/3BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Hillcrest Estates	510-339-8900	
C21 Heritage		Helen Nicholas & Jody Dworzak	
\$2,295,000	12363 Skyline Blvd.	5BD/5BA	
Open Sun 2-4:30	Oakland Hills	510-410-4917	
ERA Home Traditions		Fred Brown	

Orinda	Orinda
\$994,000 309 El Toyonal 3BD/1.5BA Open Sun 1-4 925-253-0279 Pacific Union GMAC Ken Ryerson	\$994,000 309 El Toyonal 3BD/1.5BA Open Sun 1-4 925-253-0279 Pacific Union GMAC Ken Ryerson
\$849,000 46 Olive Avenue 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Carol Brown	\$849,000 46 Olive Avenue 3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Carol Brown
\$1,070,000 211 Palm Drive 3BD/1+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Mindy Scott	\$1,070,000 211 Palm Drive 3BD/1+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Mindy Scott
\$1,232,000 109 St. James 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Mindy Scott	\$1,232,000 109 St. James 3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Mindy Scott
\$1,350,000 105 MacKinnon Pl. 4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1368 Ashley O'Neill	\$1,350,000 105 MacKinnon Pl. 4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential 510-338-1368 Ashley O'Neill
\$1,350,000 1871 Trestle Glen Road 4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Linda McClain	\$1,350,000 1871 Trestle Glen Road 4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Linda McClain
\$1,475,000 34 LaSalle 3BD/2BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker 510-339-0400 George Karsant	\$1,475,000 34 LaSalle 3BD/2BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker 510-339-0400 George Karsant
\$1,695,000 850 Highland 4bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential 510-428-0900 Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine	\$1,695,000 850 Highland 4bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential 510-428-0900 Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine
\$1,795,000 431 Linda Ave (4-Plex) 8bd/4ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential 510-428-0900 Kathy Dittmer	\$1,795,000 431 Linda Ave (4-Plex) 8bd/4ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential 510-428-0900 Kathy Dittmer
\$1,950,000 70 Somerset Road 5BD, 4.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Elizabeth Dickson	\$1,950,000 70 Somerset Road 5BD, 4.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Elizabeth Dickson
\$2,195,000 9 Wyngaard Ave. 4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC 510-339-2169 x609 Nancy Rothman	\$2,195,000 9 Wyngaard Ave. 4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union GMAC 510-339-2169 x609 Nancy Rothman
\$2,690,000 22 Mesa Avenue 5BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Anlan Tunney/Jean Simmons	\$2,690,000 22 Mesa Avenue 5BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. 510-339-0400 Anlan Tunney/Jean Simmons
Pineole	Pineole
\$519,000 424 Dohrmann 3bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-508-5580 Mary Cao	\$519,000 424 Dohrmann 3bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-508-5580 Mary Cao
\$629,000 2526 Alamo St 3+bd/2ba Sun 2-4:30 Marvin Gardens 510-524-0800 Mark P. Choi	\$629,000 2526 Alamo St 3+bd/2ba Sun 2-4:30 Marvin Gardens 510-524-0800 Mark P. Choi
\$749,950 516 Lopes Ct 4bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-508-5580 Mary Cao	\$749,950 516 Lopes Ct 4bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker 510-508-5580 Mary Cao
Pleasanton	Pleasanton
\$464,000 3843 Belmont Way 3BD/1.5BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty 510-614-4822 Jean Powers	\$464,000 3843 Belmont Way 3BD/1.5BA Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty

ALAMEDA



1427 GROVE STREET \$875,000
Fernside District Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Wonderful 3 bedroom, 2 bath Fernside district home with lovely wood detailing. Fireplace in living room, formal dining room, family room, office, built-ins, hardwood floors, fresh paint, breakfast nook and big mature yard.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 John Salbach 510-748-1170



1626-28 ALAMEDA AVENUE \$1,195,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30
 Impressive Turn of the Century Colonial Revival. This stately Gold Coast neighborhood home is a spacious 4,416 sq ft owner occupied duplex with income or single family home with room for the entire family. Resplendent with pocket doors, wainscoting, hardwood floors, coved ceilings and built-in cabinets. Lots of space and large rooms give you the feeling of comfort. Serene brick-in courtyard garden. Bonus rooms, finished attic, additional unit and half basement.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Michele Poultier 510-748-1157



1521 MINTURN \$665,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 Marcuse & Rimmel Victorian. Once used as a triplex, restored to 4 bedroom, 2 bath single family home and bonus rooms. Larger than it looks. Hardwood floors. Upgraded kitchen and baths. Fenced yard and 1-car garage. Plumbed and wired for potential expansion in large basement.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148



1804 NASON STREET \$729,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 REDUCED! Lots of windows and natural light in this large family home. 1888 sq ft on 5080 sq ft lot. 4 bedrooms, den, 1.5 baths. Formal areas, living room fireplace, dining room box beam ceiling. Master bedroom on the first floor. Newly refinished hardwood floors. New interior paint. Large lot for garden and play.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
 Dave Park 510-748-1198



1006 TAYLOR AVENUE \$558,000
West End Open Sunday 2-4
 REDUCED! Sweet Spanish split-level bungalow on quiet street. Formal areas, living room fireplace, dining room with built in china cabinet. Eat-in kitchen and separate breakfast nook can double as study or play area. Hardwood floors under carpet. Indoor utility. All appliances stay. Walk to farmer's market, parks, and public transport.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
 Roberta Rossi-Lopez 510-748-2002



1906 ALAMEDA AVENUE \$1,590,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 This impressive home offers you the charm of the past combined with modern upgrades. Plenty of room to entertain. This Victorian is in excellent condition with meticulous attention to detail and craftsmanship. Beautifully restored Eastlake Mansion. Originally constructed in 1884, it now features 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths in main house, plus 2 bedroom, 1 bath rental unit, 4-car garage plus bonus room.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Donnee & Dave Hankel 510-748-1184

Gallagher & Lindsey

REALTORS®

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"Ask how you can be a V.I.B." (Very Important Buyer)

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 Space is limited so be sure and call today to reserve your spot
 Please call (510)521-8181 and ask how you can become a V.I.B (Very Important Buyer)

ALAMEDA



1701 CENTRAL AVENUE #A \$425,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 NEW LISTING! Single level 2 bedrooms, 2 baths corner condo in a prime location in Central Alameda. This is a must see!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Ruth Masonek 510-748-1101



1923 ENCINAL AVENUE \$949,000
Gold Coast By Appointment Only
 This "Gold Coast Fringe" Triplex. Is a single family home with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath and a 2X2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex in the rear on a 6300 sq. ft. lot. Located across the street from Franklin School and park. Great investment/income opportunity!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jim Nations 510-748-1161



536 PACIFIC AVENUE \$889,000
West End By Appointment Only
 This large Queen Anne Victorian Duplex has a 3 bedroom, 2 bath on 1st floor, 2 studios & one 1+ upper. All have separate gas & electric meters. Featuring newer roof, new exterior paint, water heater, fence and concrete driveway with detached 2 car garage. Conveniently located adjacent to Longfellow elementary and is historical list.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Moon Tam 510-747-1620



539 TAYLOR AVENUE \$549,000
West End By Appointment Only
 Great 2 bedroom, 1 bath family home located in the wonderful West End. Featuring a sunny living room, spacious dining room, eat-in kitchen (bar with plenty of storage), kitchen with lots of beautiful cabinets, new roof, newly painted interior and newly refinished hardwood floors. Property comes with washer & dryer in laundry room. Sunny backyard with secluded patio. Close to shopping, transportation, parks, The Farmers Market and the ferry.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Evelyn Kennedy 510-748-1120

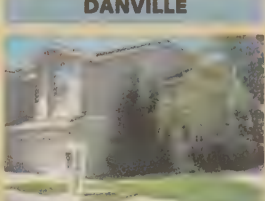


1408-1410 BAY STREET \$750,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 TREMENDOUS UP-SIDE POTENTIAL! Needs work, 3 garages, 2 one bedroom units, 2 studios Must See.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Dale Reno 510-748-1142

CASTRO VALLEY



4019 SOMERSET AVENUE \$505,000
Eden Township By Appointment Only
 STOP LOOKING, this is the one! Cute 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow. Good starter home in the Castro Valley school district.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Dave & Donnee Hankel 510-748-1184



147 HERITAGE PARK DRIVE \$729,000
Heritage Park By Appointment Only
 PRICE DROP - OWNER MOTIVATED! Amazing home at a great price, 3 bedroom, 2 bath plus loft off of master suite. This large home is walking distance to Blackhawk, shopping center, Movie Theater and golf courses. Just steps from the community pool and spa. Freshly painted outside and new wood and tile floors downstairs.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jim Collins 510-748-1189

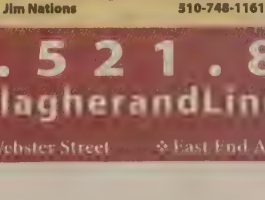


6701 BLAKE STREET \$930,000
El Cerrito By Appointment Only
 PRICE DROP! 2 houses on one lot! Walking distance to BART and shopping. Back house divided into 4 unwarranted units with plenty of income. Front house is a beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath single family home. Walking distance to El Cerrito BART station, shopping and public transportation make this property highly desirable.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jim Collins 510-748-1189

OAKLAND



820 PERALTA STREET \$599,000
West Oakland Open Sunday 2-4
 \$100,000 PRICE REDUCTION! NEW 4 bedroom, 3 baths Victorian home. Award winning architect, Paul Wang's newest urban offering features 10ft ceilings, hardwood floors, granite counters, ceramic tiles, wall to wall carpets and automatic gate with 2-car parking. 10 minutes from BART to S.F. Berkeley. Walk to Downtown Oakland & BART.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jim Nations 510-748-1161



2636 MONTICELLO AVENUE \$565,000
Maxwell Park By Appointment Only
 Nice 3 bedroom, 1 bath California Bungalow that needs some TLC. New roof, 1/2 basement and large back yard with ample parking.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jim Nations 510-748-1161

OAKLAND



5674 COLTON BLVD. \$820,000
Montclair Open Sunday 2-4
 Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath home just steps from Montclair Village. Saltillo tiles in entrance, LR and kitchen. Formal living room with fireplace and built-ins. Lower level consists of a separate 1 bedroom/1 bath. With its own entrance, it's perfect for your in-laws or au pair.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Lori Shea 510-748-1176



6095 FAIRLANE DRIVE \$1,559,000
Montclair Open Sunday 2-4:30
 Level-in 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath home with Bay Bridge and city views. Backyard with fireplace, fountain & garden. Gourmet kitchen with granite & stainless island, Bosch & Wolf appliances. Built in 1998. Minutes to Rockledge BART.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Debbie Budd 510-748-1806



6525 BUENA VENTURA AVENUE \$690,000
Millmont By Appointment Only
 "Simple elegance" are the words that describe this incredible 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath contemporary home. This home is loaded with wonderful features such as breathtaking views of city lights & bay, gleaming hardwoods, formal living & dining room, decorative slate fireplace, updated gourmet kitchen, huge master suite with master bath & Jacuzzi tub, huge finished bonus room and much, much more!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165



300 CALDECOTT LANE #215 \$390,000
Parkwood Condos By Appointment Only
 Come and see this beautiful 1 bed, 1 bath luxury condo located in the secure, gated community of Parkwood Condominiums! Just seconds away from easy access to Hwy 24 near the Caldecott Tunnel.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165



141 PLAYA DEL REY \$449,000
San Rafael Open Sunday 2-4
 This beautiful end unit with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths is in immaculate condition. Across from Bay Point and a short walk to parks and walking paths at the Lagoon and Bay this special home has everything including a sunny yard and dining area, remodeled kitchen and bath downstairs. The unit has been recently painted. The town home is conveniently located near transportation, Highway 101, shopping, Bay, the Lagoon, parks and walking and biking paths.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Evelyn Kennedy 510-748-1161
 Iris Murillo 510-748-1161

OAKLAND

5 W EMBARCADERO #219 \$249,000
Jack London By Appointment Only
 Very well maintained 1 bedroom, 1 bath corner unit. New granite countertops, east facing deck with East Bay hills view. Resort-like complex adjacent to marina, Estuary Park. Shoreline walkway to Jack London Square entertainment district.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Dobro Goodale 510-748-1161

1013 CLAY STREET \$319,000
Old Oakland By Appointment Only
 Anita's Mexican Grill is a fantastic business opportunity! New build-out restaurant in Old Oakland. 8 year lease, liquor, cabaret license. Turn-key ready and offered well under book value.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jim Nations 510-748-1161

1134 HIGH STREET \$699,000
Laurel By Appointment Only
 3 homes on a 9600 sq ft lot, this property priced to sell! Front home is 3 bedrooms, bath. Middle home is 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Rear home is a studio.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jose Carda-Zeln 510-748-1161

1899 8th STREET \$449,000
West Oakland By Appointment Only
 BIG PRICE DROP! Wonderful home with potential! Building has a nice unit upstairs, rough commercial downstairs. Reduced price if available lot next door is also purchased together. Potential, potential, potential!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jim Collins 510-748-1161

647-649 DOUGLAS \$499,000
Elmhurst By Appointment Only
 This Duplex is ready to move in! Look no further just painted inside & out, new floors and countertops.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1161

3630 PENNINGMAN AVENUE \$489,000
Oakland By Appointment Only
 This is a great starter home near freeway and school. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home also studio in back without permits.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1161

1834 11th AVENUE \$499,000
East Oakland By Appointment Only
 Price reduction to \$499,000 credit offered on this 1483 sq ft 4 bedroom, 1.5 two story home near Fruitvale BART and close to public transportation and freeway in the best and coming neighborhood. New paint and out, this home is move-in ready for an investor.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1161
 Jim Collins 510-748-1161

744 WILLOW STREET \$119,000
West Oakland By Appointment Only
 PRICE DROP - OWNER MOTIVATED! The affordable vacant lot in West Oakland. BART and the buyer is to conform with city. May purchased with lot next door for discount.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Jim Collins 510-748-1161

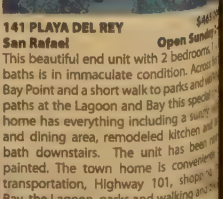
2600 LOGAN STREET \$379,000
Fruitvale District By Appointment Only
 Duplex conveniently located near Fruitvale BART station, Alameda County Medical Center, Highland, Greyhound Oakland & Grand Theatre!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1161



1900 WESTERN DRIVE (3-301) \$189,000
Floating Home By Appointment Only
 PRICE SLASHED! Peace and tranquility you at Point San Pablo Yacht Harbor. Spacious and uniquely designed FLOATING home, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, two-story home with decks and plenty of views. With \$7500 owner may carry - As is.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Angela McIntyre 510-748-1161



1541 VINING DRIVE \$899,000
San Leandro Border By Appointment Only
 Gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch home to move in with 2 car garage, family room, spacious back patio.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Carlos Valillo-Roca 510-748-1161



141 PLAYA DEL REY \$449,000
San Rafael Open Sunday 2-4
 This beautiful end unit with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths is in immaculate condition. Across from Bay Point and a short walk to parks and walking paths at the Lagoon and Bay this special home has everything including a sunny yard and dining area, remodeled kitchen and bath downstairs. The unit has been recently painted. The town home is conveniently located near transportation, Highway 101, shopping, Bay, the Lagoon, parks and walking and biking paths.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
 Evelyn Kennedy 510-748-1161
 Iris Murillo 510-748-1161

510.521.8181
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com

West End Alameda - 1410 Webster Street East End Alameda - 2411 Central Avenue

SPORTS

• Friday, November 4, 2005 •

Section C

Around the horn

Latino baseball

The Oakland Museum will host "Latinos in Baseball" from 7-9 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 4, in conjunction with the Hispanic Heritage Baseball Museum. Former Giants infielder Tito Fuentes and former A's pitcher Diego Segui will speak with sportswriter Glenn Dickey and Giants Spanish-language announcer Amaury Pi-Gonzalez. Latino baseball memorabilia will be on sale. This event runs in conjunction with "Baseball As America," a traveling exhibit of the Baseball Hall of Fame currently on display at the Oakland Museum.

— Mike McGreehan

Wheelchair rugby

Wheelchair rugby, a sport invented by quadriplegics for quadriplegics, takes place from 6-9 p.m. on Monday night at the Poplar Recreation Center (3131 Union Street, Oakland). The sport is played on a regulation basketball court, and the object is to carry a volleyball across the opponent's goal line. Call Jonathan Newman at 510-849-4663, ext. 304. Or e-mail him at jonathan@bcorp.org.

— Mike McGreehan

Assorted sports

The Bladum Sports Club in Alameda is offering an intense indoor Flag Football League as well as training programs for football, basketball, soccer and baseball/softball. Call Michael Greer at 510-482-1242 or e-mail him at mgreer@hotmail.com.

— Mike McGreehan

In control

If Pinole Valley High School's football team wins today against El Cerrito, the Spartans will clinch at least a share of the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League title. Even if Pinole Valley loses today, it would still be in the driver's seat for the league's automatic bid into the North Coast Section playoffs if it beats Hercules on Nov. 10 in the final week of the regular season. The Spartans have victories against both Berkeley and Encinal, which are tied for second place in the ACCAL with 4-1 records. Pinole Valley has a 5-0 league mark.

— Phil Jensen

Olson triumphs at Stanford

Piedmont High School graduate Drew Olson helped lead UCLA's football team to a 30-27 win over host Stanford on Saturday. Olson was 24-for-35 passing for 293 yards, with two touchdowns and no interceptions. Stanford led 24-3 before UCLA rallied for 21 straight points in the fourth quarter to tie it and force overtime. Olson threw a 31-yard touchdown pass to Joe Cowan to make it 24-17 with 4:43 left. Making 27-24 in the OT, Olson hook up with Brandon Breece from 23 yards out to win it. The Bruins (8-0, 5-0 Pac-10) moved up from eighth to No. 7 nationally on the AP Top 25 poll and is No. 5 in the BCS chase.

— Dave Carpenter

Softball signups available

The Alameda Girls Softball Association is accepting registration for its Spring 2006 season. Parents can register their daughters online at www.alamedasga.com or in person on Nov. 10 or Dec. 1. The in-person registration nights are from 7 to 9 p.m. at Edison School, 2700 Buena Vista Ave., Alameda. AGSA offers recreational softball for girls ages 5 through 14. For more information, visit www.alamedasga.com.

— Robert Jordan

Fun Ball still open

The Alameda Girls Softball Association is sponsoring a new casual softball program for the 2005 fall season called Fun Ball. Fun Ball's approach is in the spirit of pickup games where players can keep their skills fresh and enjoy playing with their friends. The program runs from 1-4 p.m. every Sunday through Nov. 13 at Krusi Park. Fun Ball is open to previously registered girls who played in the spring 2005 season at no extra cost. For more information, see the AGSA website: alamedasga.com.

— Robert Jordan

On Deck

Girls volleyball, Encinal at Berkeley, Tuesday, 6 p.m. — The Yellow Jackets will try to even the score against the Jets, who won a matchup between the teams 25-17, 21-25, 25-20, 25-17 on Oct. 13, snapping Berkeley's 42-game Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League winning streak.

Girls volleyball, Bay Shore Athletic League playoffs, Tuesday, TBA — At press time, Berkeley and St. Mary's were in line for the No. 1 and No. 2 seeds in the tournament.

Girls tennis, North Coast Section team championships, Tuesday, TBA — Alameda and Piedmont, which won the ACCAL and BSAL regular-season titles, respectively, will find out on Sunday who and where they play in the first round. The first two rounds of the 16-team tournament are hosted by the higher seeds. The semifinals and finals are Nov. 12 and a site to be determined.

Stars of the week

Darnell Quinney, El Cerrito football — Quinney scored for a game-high 201 yards and four touchdowns, but the Gauchos were edged by Encinal 34-21.

Eric Merriada, St. Mary's football — Merriada completed four of his seven passes for 94 yards and three touchdowns as the Panthers defeated Albany 17-7.

Lucy Potter, Berkeley girls water polo — Potter scored a game-high four goals in the Yellow Jackets' 7-6 win over Alameda in the third-place game of the ACCAL championships.

Loss of dad spurs EC star

■ Father's death has given wide receiver Fitzgerald a stronger focus on the football field

By Robert Jordan

STAFF WRITER

The rule has always been no tattoos.

But Carla Bazile couldn't say no to her son, Kaya Fitzgerald, about the five-inch artwork that now graces his right arm.

Not after what the 6-foot-3 190-pound El Cerrito High School wide receiver went through this summer.

After a breakout junior season, in which Fitzgerald caught 26 passes for 543 yards for the Gauchos, he was supposed to start his senior year de-

ciding what Division I college would best utilize his talents.

Instead, Fitzgerald began his final prep season attending the funeral of his dad, Joseph Fitzgerald, in Long Island, N.Y.

Joseph, an accountant, was shot and killed in front of his home by two gunmen in an attempted robbery on Aug. 21.

"My mom called and the news shocked me," said Fitzgerald, whose parents have been separated since 1996. "I was real close to my dad even though we were living on different sides of the United States."

The man, who family members

said would go around the East Farmingdale neighborhood of Long Island bragging to anyone who would listen about his son, had been taken from Fitzgerald.

So last week to honor his father, Fitzgerald got a set of praying hands with the words "In loving memory of Joseph Fitzgerald" tattooed on his upper right arm.

"I didn't want him to have it, but I couldn't tell him not to," Bazile said. "I didn't know how to tell him how to cope with his father's death. It is something he wanted to do in honor of him."

It was also a way for Fitzgerald to remember the annual summer trips to Long Island that he would make to visit his dad.

"She didn't mind this one because it had a purpose," said Fitzgerald

about the tattoo.

Bazile admits that Fitzgerald, 17, has coped with the loss better than she has. But dealing with adversity is something that Fitzgerald learned from his dad.

"I just have to keep living my life because I know he wouldn't want me to be sad," Fitzgerald said. "He would want me to keep doing what I am doing because I am doing good with my life so far. I just have to make him proud."

Joseph has plenty to be proud of. Not only does Fitzgerald sport a 3.6 grade point average, but he also has competed in four sports for the Gauchos and has a budding rap music career.

However, the loss has given

See FITZGERALD, Page 2



EL CERRITO'S Darnell Quinney ran for 201 yards on 15 carries and scored four touchdowns against Encinal.

St. Mary's cuts off Albany with the pass

■ Panthers complete only four passes, but three go for scores in 27-6 victory

By Gabe Feletar

STAFF WRITER

St. Mary's High School quarterback Eric Merriada completed just four passes against host Albany in a Bay Shore Athletic League football game Saturday. But three of those passes resulted in touchdowns as St. Mary's defeated Albany 27-6.

Based on the muddy field conditions, it appeared that the running game would decide the outcome. But with neither team able to establish much of a rhythm on the ground, Merriada took to the air, throwing touchdown passes of 5, 26, and 48 yards.

"If we're going to vie for this (league) championship, we've got to do a little bit better job of throwing the ball," St. Mary's coach Bert Bertero said.

St. Mary's wide receiver Stewart Adisa hauled in two touchdown passes, the first from 26 yards out with 38 seconds left in the first quarter. Albany (0-7-1, 0-3) countered on its next drive

PREP BOYS

with a 63-yard touchdown strike from quarterback Eric Roberson to wide receiver Ricky Ramos.

Aside from that touchdown, St. Mary's (4-4, 2-1 BSAL) played stellar defense, holding Albany to 120 yards. The Panthers also forced four turnovers, led by defensive back Lanny Kelly's two interceptions.

Encinal 34, El Cerrito 32: It is the season to be spooked and startled, but this isn't what the El Cerrito football team had in mind.

The Gauchos had a sluggish first half, four missed two-point conversions, poor arm tackling and an injured kicker hurt two weeks ago all come back to haunt them.

All those factors combined to hurt El Cerrito in its 34-32 loss to host Encinal in an Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League contest Friday.

"We had some mistakes that cost us," said El Cerrito running back Darnell Quinney. "They gave it their all, and we didn't bring our 'A' game. We brought our 'B' game."

Quinney was on top of his game,

running for a game-high 201 yards on 15 carries, including touchdown runs of 34, 19, 4, and 3 yards in the loss.

Despite Quinney's effort, the Jets (5-2-1, 4-1 ACCAL) had an answer each time.

Encinal's option offense gave the Gauchos (5-3, 3-2) fits. Jets quarterback Antoine Young and running back Cyrus Grant combined for 222 rushing yards on 32 carries.

After mustering just 94 total yards in the first half, El Cerrito came out in the second half and marched 73 yards in eight plays. Quinney capped the drive with a 19-yard run to pull the Gauchos within two at 20-18.

But on the ensuing kickoff, Grant swung the momentum back to Encinal. Grant took the ball from his own 15-yard line, went right, cut back left, broke some tackles and scampered 85 yards for the score.

"We had our shots," El Cerrito coach George Austin said. "If you score 32 points, you are supposed to be able to win."

What also didn't help was the absence of kicker Erik Dragos, who broke

See BOYS, Page 2

PREP GIRLS

Albany's Kim reaches NorCal

■ Freshman golfer shoots 77 at NCS Tournament of Champions to advance

By Chace Bryson

STAFF WRITER

With a second-place overall finish Monday at the North Coast Section Tournament of Champions at Baywood Country Club in Arcata, Albany High School freshman Joy Kim qualified as an individual for the California Interscholastic Federation Northern Regionals on Nov. 7 at Green Tree Golf Course in Vacaville.

Kim finished with a 3-over 77. She tied defending NCS medalist Christina Corpus of San Leandro but took second-place honors by beating Corpus in a one-hole playoff. Kim birdied the playoff hole. The medalist was College Prep's Mia Kabasakalis with a 75. St. Mary's Margo Winton had a score of 100.

WATER POLO

Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League tournament: After giving up four first-half goals, Berkeley girls water polo goalie Dominique Bonilla had enough.

Bonilla recorded nine second-half saves and allowed just one goal after halftime to help the Yellow Jackets beat Alameda 7-5 in the third-place game at the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League tournament on Saturday at Contra Costa College.

"It was pretty intense," said Bonilla, who finished with 14 saves. "We lost to them in league, and we knew we had to step up and show we wanted this."

Berkeley scored three goals within 34 seconds in the second quarter to rally from a 4-2 deficit.

Phoebe Bryson-Cahn sparked the second-quarter run with two goals, and Lucy Potter also scored during the spurt.

Potter also had a goal in the first quarter and scored two in the third quarter to finish with a game-high four goals. Bryson-Cahn finished with three goals.

"It was a very emotional (win)," said Bonilla, one of nine seniors on the team. "I really wanted to place well."

TENNIS

ACCAL tournament: Two Berkeley doubles team reached the semifinals. Ari Anisimov and Audrey Chrisler fell to eventual champions Mangala Gopal and Vikki Fermin-Weinrab of Alameda 3-6, 7-5, 6-3 on Tuesday at Alameda High School. The Yellow Jackets' Erica Hellerstein and Ariel Feingold-Shaw lost to Alameda's Tammy Wong and Jennifer Ding 6-3, 6-1 on Monday in a semifinal.

On Monday, Anisimov and Chrisler defeated Pinole Valley's Katrina Paz and Marisa Neighbor 6-4, 7-5 in the quarterfinals. Hellerstein and Feingold-Shaw defeated Jasselle Cabugao and Jennifer Cabugao of Pinole Valley 6-2, 6-4 in the quarterfinals.

Bay Shore Athletic League tournament: An Albany singles player and two St. Mary's doubles teams reached the semifinals



MIKE MCGREEHAN

Between the Lines

play at the Oakland Museum.

Scheduled to appear are former Giants second baseman Tito Fuentes and former A's pitcher Diego Segui. Fuentes and Segui will discuss Latino issues in baseball with sportswriter Glenn Dickey and Giants Spanish-

See MCGREEHAN, Page 2

See GIRLS, Page 2

Fitzgerald

FROM PAGE 1

Fitzgerald a stronger focus on the football field.

Through eight games, Fitzgerald is the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League's second-leading receiver with 491 yards on 24 catches, including three touchdowns.

Fitzgerald can improve on those numbers today when El Cerrito hosts ACCAL leader

Pinole Valley at 5 p.m.

And Fitzgerald's numbers could be a lot higher if El Cerrito didn't have so many options on offense.

"We knew he was an athlete but didn't know how competitive he was," said El Cerrito coach George Austin, who has coached Fitzgerald for the past three seasons. "He has a real competitive spirit, and if we were more one-dimensional he would catch more balls."

While Fitzgerald was hoping for a 1,000 yard season, he hasn't done a word of complaining. Instead, he has taken pride in

blocking and freeing up running lanes for running backs Darnell Quinney and JoElbert Dennis.

"I pride myself on my blocking," said Fitzgerald, who is part of the reason the Gauchos have rushed for 1,540 yards. "Your running backs will never make it to the outside if you aren't blocking."

Another lesson Fitzgerald learned from his dad — do what you can to help the team.

"He taught me to be humble and treat your mother well," Fitzgerald said.

Boys

FROM PAGE 1

his leg in a 34-21 win over Hercules on Oct. 14.

"We would have gone for one but instead went for two," said Austin about the kicking game. "And when you miss three, it starts to become a problem."

El Cerrito failed in its first four attempts on two-point conversions before Quinney finally broke through after the Gauchos' final touchdown to make the score 34-32 with 3:49 left in the game.

The Gauchos had a chance to get the ball back, but the Jets converted two third-down-and-four plays on runs by Donovan Brown to end the game.

JoElbert Dennis had a 96-yard kickoff return for the Gauchos in the second quarter.

Berkeley 36, De Anza 0: For the second consecutive game, Berkeley's defense pitched a

shutout, routing host De Anza on Friday.

With halfback Dwayne Adams (eight rushes for 104 yards, three touchdowns) leading the offense, Berkeley (5-3, 4-1 ACCAL) controlled the tempo as well as the line of scrimmage.

The Yellow Jackets' forced six turnovers and held the Dons (2-6, 0-5) to just 118 total yards. Defensive lineman Matthew Graves led the charge with two sacks and recovered a fumble.

Berkeley scored in the first period on a 9-yard burst by Adams and put the game away in the second quarter on two more scores by the junior tailback. Adams' second score was a 26-yard run down the left sideline and the last a 47-yard scamper that made the score 20-0.

WATER POLO

Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League championships: Berkeley goalie Justin Malachowski's pool-length heave that

went in was ruled too late, and Pinole Valley claimed third place in the ACCAL tournament on Saturday with a 12-11 two-overtime win at Contra Costa College.

Marin Balarin led Berkeley with eight goals before getting his third ejection and having to sit the final 1:15 seconds of the final overtime period.

There were 10 ties and four lead changes, and no team led by more than two goals.

Balarin had two goals in the first quarter, three in the third, two in fourth and one in the first overtime for Berkeley.

Pinole Valley won the game on Julio Mendoza's second goal of the overtime periods with 1:08 left in the game.

Ari Rokeach had two goals, and Austin Holey also scored for Berkeley. Malachowski finished with 12 saves.

Times staff writer Robert Jordan and correspondent Pete El-

THIS WEEKEND'S HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAMES

■ **Pinole Valley (7-1, 5-0 ACCAL) at El Cerrito (5-3, 3-2) 5 p.m. today**

Last week: Pinole Valley beat Richmond by forfeit; El Cerrito lost to Encinal 34-32

Notes: In its last game actually on the field, Pinole Valley won a 54-51 thriller against Alameda on Oct. 21. El Cerrito's Darnell Quinney ran for 201 yards and four touchdowns against Encinal.

■ **Encinal (5-2-1, 4-1 ACCAL) at Berkeley (5-3, 4-1) 1:30 p.m. Saturday**

Last week: Encinal beat El Cerrito

34-32; Berkeley beat De Anza 36-0.

Notes: Jets leading rusher Cyrus Grant (752 yards, 98 carries) has scored a touchdown in each phase of the game — on defense, offense and special teams. The Yellow Jackets have the league's top-ranked defense and haven't allowed a touchdown in eight quarters.

■ **John Swett (3-5, 2-1 BSAL) at Albany (0-7-1, 0-3), Cougar Field, 1:30 p.m. Saturday**

Last week: John Swett beat Kennedy 61-0; Albany lost to St. Mary's 27-6.

Notes: The Indians gained their yards on the ground. The Cougars haven't scored in the half since Oct. 14 against Berkeley.

■ **St. Patrick-St. Vincent (4-4, 3-2 BSAL) at St. Mary's, (4-4, 3-2 BSAL) 1:30 p.m. Saturday**

Last week: St. Patrick-St. Vincent beat Piedmont 14-7; St. Mary's beat Albany 27-6.

Notes: The Bruins have scored the fewest points in the BSAL (37 in three games). The Panthers forced four Albany turnovers last week.

Mavericks win 2005 Challenge Cup

Isis Piccillo's goal with five minutes remaining in the championship match lifted the Albany Contra Costa Mavericks Under-11 girls soccer team to a 1-0 victory over the California Odyssey in the 2005 Challenge Cup in Clovis.

Both the Mavericks and the Odyssey entered the finals with 3-0-0 records in the tournament.

Mavericks forwards Zoe Glover and Marielle Pastor and midfielder Emma Tinloy led relentless attacks on goal in the second half. However, the match remained scoreless until midfielder Piccillo sprinted past the defenders down the left side and fired a shot by the Odyssey goalie for the winning goal. The goal was the only one given up by the Odyssey during the tournament. Sweeper Frances Collins and goalies Krystal Swan and Layla Evans were able to repel all of the Odyssey threats in the

YOUTH SPORTS

shutout victory.

Earlier in the day, the Mavericks defeated the Manteca Rangers 2-0 in the semifinals. Pastor broke a scoreless tie with a quick-footed rebound goal in the first half. In the second half, midfielder Clara Macleod assured the victory by elevating a shot beyond the reach of the Rangers goalie.

The Mavericks advanced to the semifinals with round-robin divisional wins over the Bullard Strykers (4-2) and the San Juan Spirits (1-0). In the first match, Collins, Pastor, Tinloy, and Macleod scored unanswered goals for the Mavericks as they pulled out to a 4-1 lead over the Strykers. Against the Spirits, Piccillo scored the only goal of the game on a late breakaway. In

both matches, midfielder Dalrymple, Geovanna and Evans controlled the game of the field.

The Mavericks defeated Collins and defenders Kellee, Angela Boitard, Tucker and Olya Dalrymple. The Mavericks allowed only two goals in the tournament and shut out three opponents.

ROWING

Oakland Strokes: The land Strokes opened their 06 season by winning the Head of the America's Lake Natoma on Saturday.

The men's 8+ outrigger team won by a strong margin. Team members were Zander James Barnett of Berkeley

Information provided by Contra Costa Mavericks and Oakland Strokes.

McGreehan

FROM PAGE 1

language announcer Amaury Pi-Gonzalez.

A sale of Latino baseball memorabilia also will take place.

As a "First Friday (of the month)" event, the museum will stay open until 9 p.m. Those planning to attend "Latinos in Baseball," should arrive early if at all possible to check out "Baseball As America" (at no extra charge). Fans coming to "Latinos in Baseball" also would be well advised to head to the museum's history section to view "The Latino Baseball Story," a companion exhibit to "Baseball As America."

"The Latino Baseball Story," a collection of photos by Jose Luis Villegas, features Latino stars past and present. If a picture is worth 1,000 words, Villegas' work tells moving stories

of guys who enjoyed much success, those who didn't quite make it to the big leagues and of those who someday hope to have their shot at stardom.

From the early days of baseball, through the era of Hall of Famers Luis Aparicio, Roberto Clemente and Juan Marichal, to such modern greats as Manny Ramirez, America's game also has been Latin America's game. And the Latin American influence continues to grow.

Major league baseball's season might have ended last week. Still, plenty of stories remain to be told. "Latinos in Baseball" sounds like something well worth attending.

SECOND CHANCE: Those who cannot attend tonight's presentation aren't completely out of luck. On Sunday, Nov. 20, the Oakland Museum will present "The Globalization of Baseball—More Than Just America's Game" from 2-4 p.m.

Pi-Gonzalez will take part in a panel discussion about the influx of major league players from not only Latin America, but Asia, Australia and Europe.

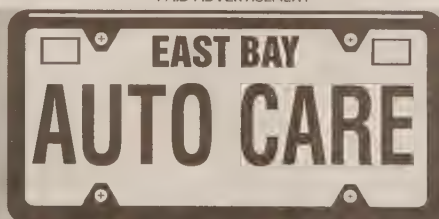
Author Jules Tygiel also is scheduled to take part in the discussion. Tygiel's works include "Past Time: Baseball as History" and "Baseball's Great Experiment: Jackie Robinson and his Legacy."

FAMILIAR RING: If the aforementioned Jose Luis Villegas' name sounds familiar perhaps it's because he collaborated with writer Marcos Breton a few years ago on a book entitled, "Away Games: The Life and Times of a Latin Baseball Player."

The book focuses on the travels and rise to prominence of then-A's shortstop Miguel Tejada.

Yes, Tejada has moved on. But take a trip to your local library anyway. The book is well worth reading.

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NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. Reviewers: Mary F. Pols, Randy Myers, Chris Hewitt, Robert W. Butler, Chris Hewitt, Bruce and Carrie Rickley, Knight Jones, Rose Newman, San Jose Valley News; David Germain, Mercury News; Associated Press; David Gates, Dave Kehr, Laura Kern, A.O. Scott, New York Times; Jamel Brummett and Jack Mathews, New York Daily News; David Krome, Bob Odenkewitz, Los Angeles Times; Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Times; Carina Chocano, Kevin DuRoi, Los Angeles Times; Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Ed Bark, Nancy Churnin, Gary Klintworth, San Francisco Chronicle; Morning News; Jan Stuart, Hollywood Reporter; Jay Boyar and Roger Ebert, Chicago Sentinel; Carla D'Amico, San Francisco Chronicle; Jay Burr, Mercury News; Boston Globe; Steve Kopp, St. Petersburg Times; Curt Hoyle, San Francisco Chronicle; Stephen Lee, San Francisco Chronicle; Michael O'Neil, San Francisco Chronicle; Dession Thomson, Washington Post; Hanh Nguyen, Zap2it.com.

"THE ARISTOCRATS": A documentary about the art of telling a joke. It's not just any joke, but an incredibly raunchy one that every comedian knows but his or her salt knows. Among the stars are Phyllis Diller, Robin Williams, Chris Rock, Richard Lewis, and on and on. A great peek into the inner world of comedy. — M. Pols. (PG-13) 1 hour, 26 minutes. B+

"WICKEN FLOWERS": We meet a young man (Bill Murray) as he's being dumped by his live-in lover (Julia Roberts). On the same day, a young man (Bill Murray) is informed that he's fathered a son 19 years earlier and that the boy may be on a mission to find his father. Don sets off on a cross-country journey to look for his son. A beautiful acted and intelligent movie that, alas, doesn't work as well as it should. With Sharon Stone, Michael Douglas, Jessica Lange and John Cusack. — M. Pols. (R: language, some graphic nudity, brief drug use.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. B

"CAPOTE": Philip Seymour Hoffman plays the only name considered for an Oscar nomination — this is a profound film about the making of a masterpiece and the undoing of a writer. Deserves an Oscar. Hoffman misses a beat playing Truman Capote, assured film, from director Ben-El-Mechaieq. The clichés come at fast

author through the process of writing his masterpiece, "In Cold Blood." Catherine Keener is exceptional as Capote's friend, and assistant, Harper Lee. — R. Myers. (R: some violent images and brief strong language.) 1 hour, 50 minutes. A

"THE CONSTANT GARDENER": In this excellent adaptation of John le Carré's novel, Ralph Fiennes portrays a British diplomat, a hapless good guy who seems to be a doormat. But when his activist wife is killed in the film's first movie, the character evolves to reveal unfathomable depths. Director Fernando Meirelles makes Kenya part of his story, as he did with Rio in the Oscar-nominated "City of God." — M. Pols. (R: language, some violent images, sexual content, nudity.) 2 hours, 9 minutes. A-

"CORPSE BRIDE": Tim Burton returns to the dazzling world of stop-motion animation for this clever romp through a literary boneyard for its inspiration. The "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" director follows up that summer success with this macabre and sweet confection, wherein an unlucky-in-love corpse (voice of Helena Bonham Carter) gets another chance at the altar. But this relationship has issues; not only is the object of her affection (voice of Johnny Depp) already engaged, but he's alive. — R. Myers. (PG: some scary images and action, and brief mild language.) 1 hour, 17 minutes. B

"DOMINO": Keira Knightley plays real-life bounty hunter Domino Harvey, who rejects the life of comfort her birth guaranteed and dives into the dark side. This is an insanely complicated tale involving DMV scammers, double-crosses, an inside-job armored car robbery and the mob. We know somebody's lost an arm; and, knowing director Tony Scott, we're sure to see how. — R. Moore. (R: strong violence, pervasive language, sexual content/nudity, drug use.) 2 hours. C-

"DOOM": Even hard-core gamers will likely be disappointed by this latest video game on the big screen. The Rock plays Sarge, leader of an elite group of Marines assigned to wipe out monsters at a Mars research station before they teleport to Earth. There's a lot of violence, but only one good sequence in the entire movie. Beam it straight to video. — R. Myers. (R: strong violence/gore and language.) 1 hour 40 minutes. D

"DREAMER: INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY": Dakota Fanning and Kurt Russell make a fine daughter-father team in this junior-league variation of "Seabiscuit." The clichés come at fast

clip as a Kentucky girl and her father help nurse a horse back to health after a racing accident. The formula seems tired, culminating with that less than surprising but still exciting Big Race. Yet Fanning, and especially Russell, have some heartfelt moments that elevate the film. — R. Myers. (PG: brief mild language.) 1 hour, 42 minutes. C+

"ELIZABETHTOWN": Director Cameron Crowe ("Almost Famous," "Jerry Maguire") strikes out with this semi-autobiographical comedy/drama about a disgraced young man learning how life is never linear. Orlando Bloom ("Lord of the Rings") is quite good as a recently fired shoe designer who finds love and happiness in unexpected places. With Kristin Dunst as the love interest. Shoots off in too many directions, and features one of cinema's most embarrassing eulogies. Not a fiasco, but a failure. — R. Myers. (PG-13: language, some sexual references.) 2 hours, 3 minutes. C-

"EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED": For his directing debut, Liev Schreiber has boiled down Jonathan Safran Foer's bizarre novel into something a little more conventional. But only a little. The lead character, also named Jonathan Safran Foer (Elijah Wood), goes searching around Ukraine for an ancestral village destroyed during the Holocaust. He hires a young Ukrainian man and his grumpy, blind grandfather to help him find the mystery woman who, family legend has it, saved his grandfather's life during the German occupation. — B. Strauss. (PG-13: violence, language.) 1 hour, 42 minutes. B

"THE EXORCISM OF EMILY ROSE": Are demons real, or a manifestation of mental illness? Do exorcisms work because they tap into the power of God, or because the sufferer has been preconditioned to respond? This film explores both sides while delivering some creepy chills. Laura Linney plays an attorney assigned to defend a rural priest charged with homicide. His parishioner Emily Rose succumbed after months of torment by what the priest is convinced was demonic presence. — R. Butler. (PG-13: thematic material, including disturbing images.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. C

"FLIGHTPLAN": Jody Foster plays a woman who wakes up on a transatlantic flight claiming that her daughter is missing. The actress walks that tightrope between "Is she paranoid?" and "Should she be?" with such conviction and panic that she makes this

"Twilight Zone" nightmare plausible and horrific. — R. Moore. (PG-13: violence, intense plot material.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. B

"THE FOG": This remake of the 1980 horror film stays pretty true to its roots. A hundred years after the founding of a small coastal town, a thick fog rolls in night after night, knocking out electricity, destroying boats, causing car accidents and — oh, yeah — sucking people through windows. Trying to escape this madness are hunky fishing-boat captain Nick Castle (Tom Welling), his ex-girlfriend, Elizabeth (Maggie Grace), and the town's sultry radio DJ, Stevie (Selma Blair). — C. Lemire. (PG-13: violence, disturbing images, brief sexuality.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. C-

"THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN": Unabashedly raunchy, yet funny enough to keep you entertained through its feel-good finish. Steve Carell (from TV's "The Office") plays Andy, a middle-aged man who, because of a bad encounter or three, has decided that it's best to avoid women and concentrate on building his collection of action figures. But when his doofus co-workers discover his status, they make it their mission to get their friend some sex. With Catherine Keener. — G. Whipp. (R: pervasive sexual content, language, some drug use.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. B

"G": Summer G (Richard T. Jones) is a hip-hop impresario with the bling, the babes and the Bentleys in this hip-hop remake of "The Great Gatsby." He's throwing the best parties in the Hamptons, all to impress Sky (Chenao Maxwell), who left him back in college for a lawyer named "Chip" (Blair Underwood). A cousin brings G's ex-lovers back into contact. — R. Moore. (R: language, some sexuality, brief violence.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. C-

"GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK": George Clooney directed, wrote and co-stars in this sharp black-and-white film about veteran newsman Edward R. Murrow's tongue with anti-Communist fanatic Joseph McCarthy (wisely depicted in archival footage). The film both educates and entertains, reminding us of an important episode in history that resonates today. — R. Myers. (PG: mild thematic elements, brief language.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. A

"THE GOSPEL": With rafter-shaking, R&B-tinged gospel performances, there are some mighty joyful noises in this movie. Boris Kodjoe is David "D.T." Taylor, the son of a preacher man (Clifton Powell) whose devotion often made him absent, even when David's mother died. David left home

OPENING TODAY

"BALLETES RUSSES" (NR)
This documentary details the lives of dancers who belonged to the famous Ballets Russes troupe during the first half of the 20th century.

"CHICKEN LITTLE" (G)
The little chicken that scrambled the truth discovers there is actual trouble in the sky in this animated Disney film.

"CHRISTMAS IN THE CLOUDS" (PG)
A ski resort is the setting for this romantic comedy with a mostly American Indian cast.

"JARHEAD" (R)
"American Beauty" director Sam

Mendes tackles this adaptation of Anthony Swofford's memoir about being a Marine in the first Gulf War. Jake Gyllenhaal stars, along with Jamie Foxx.

"NBT NEVER BEEN THAWED" (NR)
This mockumentary along the lines of "Best in Show" focuses on a group of eccentrics, including a founder of a frozen entree collectors club and a 33-year-old virgin.

"PARADISE NOW" (PG-13)
Due to unforeseen circumstances, plans dramatically change for two Palestinian suicide bombers who are also friends.

to become a pop star; 13 years later, the prodigal son returns when his father falls ill. — S. Persall. (PG: brief sensuality, mature themes, brief language.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. B-

"A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE": One act of violence triggers another, which leads to another and another in director David Cronenberg's latest head trip. Viggo Mortensen plays an all-American dad who finds his family being haunted by a menacing man (Ed Harris) after he thwarts a robbery at his diner. The sexually graphic and gory film meditates on violence, identity and the American dream. It's not for the squeamish, but it is one of the year's most powerful and unsettling films. — R. Myers. (R: strong brutal violence, graphic sexuality, nudity, language and some drug use.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. A-

"IN HER SHOES": This film version of the "chick lit" book uses every shoe metaphor imaginable, and jams it into a much too lengthy running time. Cameron Diaz plays the sexy sister to Toni Collette's frumpy one in this lightweight exploration of family and romance. The jury remains out on whether Diaz can still act, but Collette, Mark Feuerstein and Shirley Maclaine as a "lost" grandmother almost make this soap opera material float. — R. Myers. (PG: thematic material, language and some sexual content.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. C

"INNOCENT VOICES": Expect every emotion to be yanked out of you in this harrowing true account of an 11-year-old boy facing the possibility of going to war in 1980s El Salvador. Chavez (Carlos Padilla Lenero) is at crossroads in his young life and must choose whether to be in the army or join a rebel group. Director Luis Mandoki has made a powerful yet slightly manipulative film. — R. Myers. (R: disturbing violence, some language; in Spanish with English subtitles.) 2 hours. B-

"KISS KISS, BANG BANG": Writer Shane Black ("Lethal Weapon" scribe) goes Gonzo in his first outing as a director with this clever, ribald and rambunctious sendup of film noir. A thief (Robert Downey Jr.) winds up in Los Angeles where he becomes enmeshed in a real-life murder. Michele Monaghan brings great spunk to her role of a wannabe actress and love interest. The plot is cluttered but there's so much energy, nifty dialogue and quirky side bits that you don't care. — R. Myers. (R: language, violence, sexuality/nudity.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. A-

"THE LEGEND OF ZORRO": Disharmony on the homefront finds Mrs. Zorro (Catherine Zeta-Jones) making eyes with a former classmate (Rufus Sewell) in this ill-advised sequel to the 1998 adventure hit "The Mask of Zorro." "Legend's" screenwriters decide to scale back on the sword fights and up the verbal jousting between Mrs. Zorro and Zorro (Antonio Banderas). That puts a damper on

"MIRROREMASK": This fantasy follows the odyssey of 15-year-old Helena, who has a life most kids would relish. She travels with her parents in a circus, but longs for a normal existence. Helena is overcome with guilt when her mother falls seriously ill after a bitter fight. She retreats into a fantasy world in which her mother is both good queen and bad queen; the girl must retrieve a magic charm to help the good queen. — P. Wuntch. (PG: scary images.) 1 hour, 51 minutes. A-

"NINE LIVES": Filmmaker Rodrigo Garcia has rounded up a huge, lusty cast and accomplished an impressive feat with his medley of nine short films about women. The perfor-

See MOVIES, Page C4

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

times for Friday November 4

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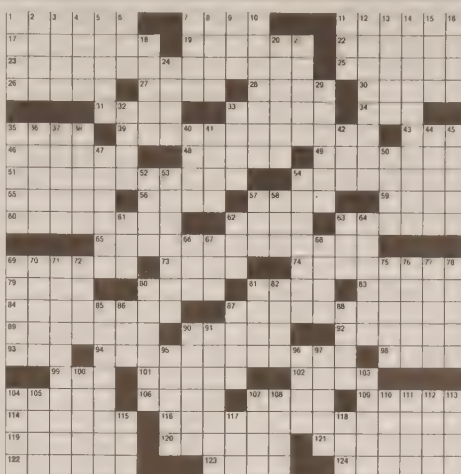
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30 Pore's fribe
31 Farmer's prayer
33 "Batman" fight scene word
34 Book after Ezra: Abbe
35 Durango domicile
39 Halloween expense?
43 French coconuts: Abbe
46 Recreating
48 Booby's dedicate
49 Curious one
51 Creepy neighborhood?
54 Bobbing for apples, e.g.
55 Watchmaker's sci.
56 Weight lifter's units

DOWN

1 Public relations effort
2 River of Tuscany
3 Riga native
4 Not mint
5 114-Across, e.g.
6 Recent U.S.N.A. grad
7 Good buddy
8 Astronomical bear
9 M.D.'s requirement
10 Brewster's needs
11 Worrying sound to a ballonist
12 Other side
13 Military reconnaissance tool
14 Group of cacklers in wooden shoes?
15 Biol. branch
16 Protected state bird
18 It's found above the table
20 Cold drink
21 What to call the barber of Seville

ACROSS

57 Not only that
59 Laughing matter
60 Indecipherable
62 Inactive home of
63 Knows about
65 Apparition on a "Concentration" board?
69 Philatelic design on an envelope
73 Bats
74 Shouted encouragement
79 Tuning note
80 Ins holder
81 College QB, maybe
83 1998 BP purchase
84 Prop for
87 Study of ghosts and goblins?
89 Grandmotherly type
90 Angler with pots
92 Provocation, metaphorically
93 Hates, old Parisian market
94 Tuneup for a Halloween conveyance?
98 Spanish direction
99 Alphabetic trio
101 Grab
102 Puts
104 Sponge mushroom
106 Italian painter (sue)
107 Poker declaration
109 Architectural projections



71 Terrifying cry?
72 Didn't break
75 Potassium
76 Workers in rows
77 Fanfare
78 Caravan, e.g.
80 Hubbub
81 Rabbit
82 Versatile male
85 Didn't take it any longer

86 Flat-ended instrument
87 Run for it
88 Two topper
90 "But I'm still white, sometimes I just hate life!"
91 Lake early dawns and late sunsets

95 Packing way too much
96 Tennis' Nastase
97 Lock site
100 Street of mystery
103 Handled
104 Cut
105 First-century Roman emperor
107 "To Live and Die"

108 Popular game set on an island
110 Kind of bread
111 Leave open-mouthed
112 Old Roman cry
113 Garden adjunct
115 Stinging posts: Abbr.
117 Rhein blocker
118 "Stand" rock group

Movies

FROM PAGE C3

manes are remarkable, the actors (Robin Wright Penn, Holly Hunter, Sissy Spacek, Kathy Baker, to name a few) clearly reveling in the theatrical flourish of shooting their scenes in one continuous take. While the women dominate, the men provide tremendous support. — D. Germain. (R: language, brief sexual content, some disturbing images.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. C+

"NORTH COUNTRY": Charlize Theron delivers another Oscar-worthy performance as a Minnesota mother of two who stands up to on-the-job sexual harassment and changes history. Director Niki Caro ("Whale Rider") creates another strong female character in this based-on-a-true-story account that falters only when it enters the courtroom. A powerful and worthwhile film, even though the lead character is pure fiction. With Frances McDormand and Sissy Spacek. — R. Myers (R: sequences involving sexual harassment, including violence and dialogue, also language.) 2 hours, 3 minutes. B

"PRIME": Uma Thurman is Rafi, 37, and newly divorced. Dave (Bryan Greenberg), at 23, is a swinging, callow hipster who hasn't figured out women. The two meet, have a date and hit it off. The kicker in this featherweight comedy — heavy on the Jewish boy/Jewish mom schick — is that Rafi bares her soul about this sexy new infatuation with her shrink (Meryl Streep), who soon realizes the boy in question is her son. And she doesn't approve. — R. Moore. (PG-13: sexual content including dialogue; language.) 1 hour, 40 minutes.

B

"PROOF": There's a lot of talent in front of and behind the cameras for this screen version of the Pulitzer Prize-winning play. Unfortunately, Oscar-winners Gwyneth Paltrow and Anthony Hopkins, along with nearly everyone else, seem to be off their mark. There's some great writing, but in the end, this production of a smart tale about family, madness and genius simply doesn't add up. — R. Myers. (PG-13: some sexual content, language and drug content.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. C

"ROLL BOUNCE": In this '70s roller boogie comedy-drama-romance, Bow Wow plays Xavier (or "X"), who pals around with his skate buddies. The whole endeavor is set against the backdrop of the socioeconomic disparity between Chicago's South Side — where X and his friends live — and the wealthier North Side, where they're forced to skate once their run-down local rink closes. It's all formulaic, but Bow Wow is likable enough to make most of the movie tolerable. — C. Lemire. (PG-13: language, some crude humor.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. C+

"SAW II": The surprise horror hit of last year spawns a gory sequel that is effective and deadly serious about what it wants to do. A terminally ill serial killer named Jigsaw toys with a burnt-out detective (Donnie Wahlberg) as he tortures eight misfits, including the cop's son, in a booby-trapped house. "Saw II" is better made than the first "Saw," but it could use a jolt of camp. — R. Myers. (R: strong violence, drug use, language and sexual-ity.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. C+

"SERENITY": This follow-up to the canceled cult TV series "Firefly" combines classic elements of Westerns

and science fiction, but sharp writing and well-drawn characters mean you can enjoy it even if you don't like those genres. Or if you don't have a history with the characters. — C. Hewitt. (PG-13: intense violence and action, some sexual references.) 1 hour, 58 minutes. B-

"SHOPGIRL": Steve Martin stars in this romantic comedy based on his own novella of the same name. Mirabelle Buttersfield (Claire Danes) sells gloves at Saks Fifth Avenue in Beverly Hills. Mostly, she stands behind a counter, removed from the main retail action. What she needs, Martin's introductory voice-over tells us, is someone to recognize and appreciate her, to pluck her out from the crowd. The movie itself does this, and so do her two suitors who become unwitting rivals for Mirabelle's affection (Martin and Jason Schwartzbaum). — A.O. Scott. (R: some sexuality, brief language.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. A

"THE SQUID AND THE WHALE": Jeff Daniels merits serious Academy Award consideration for his performance in this tale of bitter divorce and family breakdown. He plays Bernard, a writing professor and novelist whose talent is drying up, and who grows increasingly sour over his wife's (Laura Linney) rising fortunes as a writer. All this couple has left to offer their kids is rancor. The decision to split up and share custody quickly follows. — D. Germain. (R: strong

sexual content, graphic dialogue, language.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. B+

"THREE ... EXTREMES": There are connections in this trio of short films from Asia — concerning class struggles and revenge — but the key connector is that there's at least one gruesome death in each. "Cut" is a fine introduction to director Park Chan-Wook's diabolical talents. In "Dumplings," Bai Ling plays a dumpling maker whose recipe involves an activity that dares us not to flinch at its cringy ickiness. Last and least is "Box," which exploits a grab bag of fears. — C. Hewitt. (R: strong disturbing content, some involving abortion and torture; also sexuality and strong language; in Cantonese, Japanese, Korean and Mandarin with subtitles.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. B

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2. Briefs
3. Spruce
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www.peets.com

GRAND OPENING PARTY

Saturday, November 5, 9am-4pm
9895 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

FREE BREWED COFFEE & TEA

Enjoy free, freshly brewed coffee & tea both days. Donations will be collected on behalf of a local nonprofit organization and total donations will be matched by Peet's up to \$1000.

COMPARATIVE TASTINGS

Taste coffees side-by-side and learn to discern and describe their flavor nuances. Tastings will be led by a Peetnik trained in the art of "cupping".

FREE 1/2 POUND OF COFFEE

Treat yourself to a 1/2 pound of our fresh-roasted coffee during our grand opening party and we'll give you another 1/2 pound of coffee free. Limit one 1/2 pound per customer; while supplies last. Reserve coffees excluded.

LOOK FOR ENTRY BLANK IN TODAY'S TIMES
OR BECOME AN EASY PAY SUBSCRIBER AND
YOU'LL AUTOMATICALLY BE ENTERED!

\$15,000 Great Giveaway

\$200 **\$500** **\$1,000**
Daily Prizes Sunday Prizes Grand Prize

Win Free Gas! Win Free Groceries!

Starting September 16, look for the entry blank in the Times or become an EasyPay subscriber and be automatically entered into the \$15,000 Great Giveaway contest.

Or, Enter Online at www.contracostatimes.com

Entry Forms Every Day!
Winner Every Day!
New Contest Every Week!

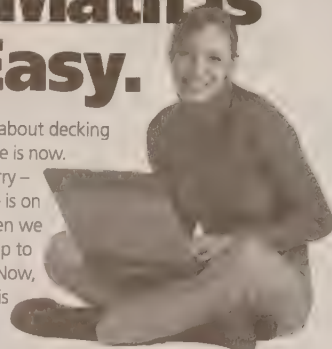
CONTRA COSTA TIMES
CONTRACOSTATIMES.COM



PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

The Holidays Are Soon. The Savings Are Now. The Math is Easy.

If you've had any thoughts about decking the halls this season, the time is now. Every kind of flooring we carry - which is every kind there is - is on sale at every store. And when we say sale, we mean savings up to **50% and even 70% off**. Now, don't you think subtraction is so much nicer than addition?



Broadloom Carpet

Added Pizzaz
Scotchgard Protection
Reg. \$22.99/10-Yr. Warranty

\$18.99
Square Yard
Installed with Pad

Moss Point
50 Ounce Cut Pile Berber
Reg. \$29.95/Six Colors

\$24.95
Square Yard
Installed with Pad

Marvelous
So Thick You Can Lose a Small Child
Reg. \$34.99/Stock Only

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Square Yard
Installed with Pad

QS050 Plush Frieze
High Twist - Designer Looks
Reg. \$39.99/Sq. Yd.

\$19.99
Square Yard
Installed with Pad

Aztec Berber
Add Color & Style to a Room
Reg. \$28.99

\$21.99
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Installed with Pad

Talavera*
Karastan's Premium Designer
Look - Reg. \$49.95 Stock Only

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Square Yard
Installed with Pad

*Available in Richmond & Pittsburg Only

Area Rugs up to 70% Off!

Area Rugs Available in **Richmond** and **Dublin** Stores Only



Every Size, Color, and
Style, Classic to Contemporary,
Including Signature Designers and
All Major Manufacturers

Tile & Stone

Italian Porcelain
Imported 12"x12" Tiles in Stock
Reg. \$5.99/Square Foot

\$1.99
Square Foot

Mystic Gray Marble
Cool Elegance - 12"x12" Tiles
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\$3.99
Square Foot

3/4" Solid Hardwood

3/4" Solid Oak
In Champagne & Butterscotch
Reg. \$7.99/Sq. Ft. Stock Only

\$3.99
Square Foot

Gauged Multi-Color Slate
12"x12" Tiles in Stock
Reg. \$2.99/Square Foot

\$1.99
Square Foot

Mexican Durango
12"x12" Tiles - In Stock Only
Reg. \$6.99/Square Foot

\$3.99
Square Foot

Malaysian Cumaru
Can In Stock
Reg. \$11.99/Square Foot

\$6.99
Square Foot

Ask about **no payments and no interest** for six months OAC

Sale Ends Sunday, November 6.

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Richmond • 510 527 3203 Pittsburg • 925 473 1400



THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu

Juanita's Home Style Mexican Cooking



APPETIZERS

QUESADILLA
On corn or flour tortilla.....\$3.50

NACHOS CHICOS
Small order. Corn chips topped w/fried beans, melted cheese, fresh salsa, sour cream, guacamole & jalapeños.
With any meat, just add \$1.25.....\$4.25

JUANITA'S APPETIZER
Nachos, salsa, cream guacamole, quesadilla, 2 flautas, 2 stuffed jalapeños.
With meat add \$1.50.....\$9.50

CARNE ASADA BURRITO
Grilled steak, rice, beans and fresh salsa..\$4.75

CHICKEN or PORK TAMALES
Topped with red sauce and cheese.....\$3.00

CRISPY & SOFT TACOS
With cheese, salsa and lettuce (chicken, beef, chile verde).....\$3.00

SOPEs or TOSTADAS
With choice of beef, chicken, chile verde, (pork) or carne asada. With fried beans, salad, salsa, cheese, sour cream and guacamole.....\$3.95

MEXICAN MEALS

All served with rice, beans and tortillas

CHILE VERDE.....Half order \$6.75
Pork chunks in green tomatillo sauce.....\$7.95

CHILE COLORADO.....Half Order \$6.75
Sirloin steak cutlets in our tasty red sauce...\$7.95

CARNE ASADA
Tender sirloin steak grilled to perfection, with salad & french fries.....\$9.75

CHILAQUILES VERDES con POLLO
A tortilla dish with chicken and green sauce \$8.95

FAJITAS
Steak or chicken breast strips.....\$10.50

POZOLE
Pork chunks and hominy in red sauce served only with tostadas.....\$8.95

JUANITA'S PLATE
Soft grilled steak with five jumbo shrimps...\$12.95

CALDO de POLLO.....Half order \$6.95
Served only with rice and tortillas.....\$8.50

BURRITO FAMOSO With any meat, topped with enchilada sauce and cheese.....\$6.50

Juanita's Home Style Mexican Cooking

FULL BARI
MARGARITAS ARE
OUR SPECIALTY

Something New!

Treat yourself to a
traditional Mexican
feast.

Buy 1
lunch get
2nd lunch
free!

*2nd Off Dine-in only
not combined w/any other offer

Breakfast 7am - 11am • Open until 3am daily • Take-out orders welcome
1324 Park St., Alameda 865-2588 Fax 865-2230

Café Enrico

Since 1978, 875D Island Drive, Alameda, (510) 522-0128
For fine Italian dining at its best, visit Café Enrico overlooking the beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon. Full bar service features special cocktails daily with exceptional wine selections. From gourmet seafood plates to Old World pastas, chicken dishes, sandwiches and even a dieter's menu, Café Enrico truly offers something to please everyone. In fact, many guests dine in two and three times a week. House specialty steamed (Manila clams and fresh seafood cioppino) are not to be missed. *Café Enrico is open daily Sat & Sun Brunch is served until 3 pm and Early Bird Specials (12.95) are served Mon-Fri until 6 pm and Sat & Sun until 5 pm.* For Reservations, please call (510) 522-0129 MC, Visa, AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$5

El Caballo

891B Island Drive (Harbor Bay Island), Alameda, (510) 521-4032
Family-owned El Caballo Mexican Restaurant has had a long-standing reputation for preparing delicious traditional dishes from scratch using nothing but the freshest ingredients of the highest quality. El Caballo is famous for their Especialidades De Mariscos (seafood specialties) including Paella Estilo Catalina, Cioppino Siete Madres, Enchiladas Cabo San Lucas, and many others. In addition to delicious seafood entrees, El Caballo offers an impressive menu of Mexican favorites to please every palate. The family and staff at El Caballo have made it their utmost priority to offer you, their guests, a pleasant and relaxing dining experience. You are invited to enjoy authentic Mexican dining with a view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon.

Juanita's

1324 Park Street, Alameda (510) 865-2588
Juanita's has been serving home style Mexican cooking since 1975 to generations of Bay Area diners. Patrons enjoy a margarita or cold cerveza at Juanita's with their choice of delicious Mexican appetizers and entrees. Including everyone's favorite - tacos, enchiladas, and fajitas. AC \$5 FB W

Katsu Sushi

1465 Webster Street, Alameda, (510) 749-8461
West Alameda's newest restaurant, Katsu Sushi, invites guests to an upscale dining experience with classic simplicity. Chef Sang Kim prepares all dishes from scratch and seafood is brought in fresh, directly from Japan. The menu is extensive, ranging from an extraordinary selection of sushi and sashimi, Udon/Soba, Donburi (over rice dishes), to pasta and an impressive variety of sake. Architect Duk Lee has created a dramatic backdrop for guests, marrying modern art with traditional design elements. Attention to even the most minor aesthetic detail is also mirrored in the elegant presentation of Katsu's dishes, offerings that are as much a work of art to the palate as to the eye. *Katsu is open for lunch M-F from 11:30am to 2:30pm and open for dinner every day from 5-9:30pm. Reservations recommended.*

Montclair Bistro

6118 Medau Place, Montclair Village, (510) 482-8282
Chef Henry Vortriede's philosophy of his restaurant, Montclair Bistro, is Metrix Cuisine, which he finds is "a synergy between the food on the table, the art on the walls, and the ambience of the restaurant. The result is a feeling of comfort and harmony between the food and the surroundings." The Bistro's cuisine is Creative California with a French Flare and offers gourmet delicacies for even the most discriminating palate. The dining experience is enhanced with a full bar and more than 150 wines and Vintage Ports. *Montclair Bistro offers lunch, dinner, Happy Hour and Sunday Brunch. Please visit our ad for hours of operation. Reservations are recommended but not required. Visit www.montclairbistro.com.*

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621
Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular early bird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. *The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner.*

Sophia Cafe

1247 Solano Ave., Albany (510) 526-8663
Sophia Cafe is a tiny haven for Mideast food. Owner Moti Dagan makes entrees and baked goods with a personal touch. For dinner enjoy schnitzel, moussaka (sliced eggplant dish with ground beef) or the cous cous plate. Finish with a delightful dessert made in-house. For a limited time, enjoy early bird specials for only \$7.95. Offer valid only with mention of ad from 5-9pm. Take out and catering menus available upon request. *Open Sun-Fri 11-9pm.*

Sushi House

2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999
When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Sallie Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." *Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays & Saturdays. Plenty of free parking.* From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC VS \$5

Café Enrico

Italian Restaurant

In Beautiful Harbor Bay
Landing overlooking lagoon
875 Island Dr., Alameda

Special

Veal Chops
In Port Wine Sauce
\$23.95

Baked Sea Food
Prawns, Scallops, Lobster
\$22.95

Open 7 days a week

Lunch: 11am - 2:30pm (M-F) 11am - 3pm (TH-Sun)
Dinner: 4pm - 9:30pm (M-W) 3pm - 9:30pm (TH-Sun)
Brunch: 11am - 3pm (Sat-Sun)

Please Call (510) 522-0129 for Reservation

Sophia Cafe

A MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT

11-9 every day except Saturday

Early Bird Special
\$9.95

With Mention of This Ad
Expires 11/10/05
Dine-In Only 5-9pm only

1247 Solano Avenue, Albany
(510) 526-8663



Sushi House

japanese restaurant & sushi bar
Beautiful Alameda Location Overlooking Water

Business Hours
Sunday - Thursday
From 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM
Friday & Saturday
From 11:00 AM to 10:30 PM

2375 Shoreline Drive,
Alameda, California 94501
www.e-sushihouse.com

510-865-0999
fax: 510-865-2404

Avoid waiting! Fax in your order in advance!

KATSU

SUSHI

Lunch

Mon-Fri 11:30-2:30pm

Dinner

Mon-Thur & Sun 5-9:30pm

Fri & Sat 5-10pm

(510) 749-8461

1465 Webster Street

Reservations Recommended

Now Open for
Lunch

Thurs-Fri & Sun. Brunch

Complimentary appetizer/steak

for lunch or brunch

or

a complimentary dessert for
dinner with a purchase of any
two entrees when you
present this ad

6118 Medau Pl., Montclair Vll.
510.482.8282

El Caballo



MEXICAN RESTAURANT
Authentic Mexican Dining
with view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon

50% OFF

Purchase one entree and receive 50% OFF
second entree (of equal or lesser value)
Offer exp. 1/30/06

891-B Island Dr., Alameda
TEL (510) 521-4032

Thanksgiving Day Pier 29

Open: 1pm to 7pm

Special Holiday Dinners along with our full dinner
menu will be available for your Holiday enjoyment.

SPECIAL DINNERS:

- (1) Roasted Turkey Dinner.....\$15.95
- (2) Honey Baked Ham Dinner.....\$15.95

Includes Soup or Salad, Mashed Potato,
Steamed Vegetables, Dressing, Gravy, and Yams

DESSERT:

Homemade Pumpkin Cheesecake with
Macadamia Nut Crust

For Reservations please call (510) 261-1621
300 29th Avenue, Oakland, Ca 94601

THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu

MEXICAN MEALS

MENUDO

Soft beef cutlets on tasty red broth. Half order \$6.50
With tortillas only.....\$7.95

TOSTADA ESPECIAL

With any meat, cheese, salad, onions, cream &
guacamole.....\$6.00

SEA FOOD

CALDO de Camarones

Shrimp broth with tasty vegetables.....\$11.50

CAMARONES a la DIABLA

Large shrimp in very hot sauce with rice, beans
and our handmade tortillas.....\$11.50

PESCADO FRITO

Bull fish with fries, salad, rice, beans and
tortillas

DESSERTS

FLAN

Custard Slice.....\$2.50

CAKE

Strawberry Cheesecake, Pastel Tres Leches,
Chocolate, Fruitcake, Slice.....\$3.00

OUR COMBOS

Complete meals served with rice and beans. Choice for crispy tacos:
chicken, ground beef & vegetarian. For enchiladas: cheese, chicken or
ground beef. For flautas: cheese or chicken. Grilled meat or carne asada:
add \$.75 per item

TWO TACOS & ENCHILADA.....\$8.50

TWO TAMALES & A TACO.....\$8.50

ENCHILADA, TACO & CHILE RELLENO.....\$8.75

TAMALE, TACO & ENCHILADA.....\$8.50

TWO GROUND BEEF BURRITOS.....\$8.25

ENJOY OUR BAR

An ample variety of beverages are available in our bar lounge.
Champagne, cordials, liquors, wines, imported & domestic beer, non-
alcoholic beers, whiskeys, bourbons, cognacs & of course the best
imported tequilas

TEQUILA MARGARITA

Voted "The Best Margaritas in Alameda" Regular
or strawberry.

By the glass.....\$4.50

Juanita's

1324 Park Street, Alameda (510) 865-2588

Juanita's has been serving home style Mexican cooking since
1975 to generations of Bay Area diners. Patrons enjoy a margarita
or cold cerveza with their choice of delicious Mexican
appetizers and entrees. Including everyone's favorite - tacos,
enchiladas, and fajitas. AC \$\$ FB W



TEQUILA MARGARITA

Pitcher.....\$11.50

ENJOY WHILE WE SERVE
YOUR FOOD



El Caballo Wraps

"Gourmet Mexican Cuisine"

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Buy Any Burrito
Get a Soda Free

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1108 LINCOLN AVENUE
ALAMEDA, CA 94501

PH: (510) 521-6257 FAX: (510) 521-6257

Café Ya 'sou

1265 Harbor Bay Parkway #100, Alameda, (510) 522-7991
Café Ya 'sou takes guests on a culinary journey to the
Mediterranean, bringing the flavors of Greece and her
neighbors to Alameda. Open for breakfast, lunch and
dinner, Ya 'sou has a reputation for pleasing guests with old-
fashioned Greek specialties created by Stelios. Try one of
many home-style entrees, including Moussaka, Spanikopita,
Tiropitakia, Osso Buco, and Dolmas (Greek sampler) to
name only a few. Vegetarian entrees are available upon
request. Greek desserts, cakes pastries from old family recipes
are not to be missed. Catering is also a specialty at Café Ya
'sou, offering delicious sit-down or buffet-style dinners for
private parties, corporate events, weddings and more. A
catered Sunday brunch can be arranged for your church or
community center. Café Ya 'sou is located at 1265 Harbor Bay
Parkway #100 in Alameda. (510) 522-7991.

Kamakura

2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda (510) 521-9121
Faith Yamato and the chefs of Kamakura present SHARI, the
highest quality of rice that envelopes Sushi. The best short
grain premium rice available in the USA is used for
Kamakura's Sushi. The "Tamanishiki" brand of rice definitely
provides the decisive edge in Sushi quality and taste.
Following centuries-old Japanese culinary practice, the rice is
gently steamed, then seasoned with an aged-vinegar blend,
and carefully fanned to cool to achieve the perfect, firm, yet
moist texture, pliable but not sticky; there is no shortcut. For
authentic, delectable Sushi and original Japanese creations,
dine-in, take-out and party catering, visit or contact
Kamakura Restaurant, 2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda,
(510) 521-9121. Wheelchair access, accepting Visa,
MasterCard, AMEX, Discover. Open for Lunch Mon. - Sat.
11:30-2:30; Dinner served daily 5pm-10pm.

La Pinata 3

1440 Park St., Alameda (510) 769-9111
La Pinata 3 has been indulging the Bay Area since 1978 with
authentic, delicious Mexican cuisine. In 2005, La Pinata 3
introduced their Taco Bar, offering authentic Mexican tacos
prepared the old-fashioned way, with traditional ingredients. In
addition to Pinata 3's impressive menu, including Albondigas
(meat ball soup), traditional Mexican breakfasts, and the famous
Whole Red Snapper, delectable homemade pastries (desserts) and
after dinner drinks are not to be missed. Perhaps most impressive
about La Pinata 3 is the popular Tequila Bar. Serving the largest
variety of 100% Agave tequilas in Alameda, and perhaps the entire
East Bay, the tequila bar at La Pinata 3 is guaranteed to turn you in
to a return guest. La Pinata 3 is open daily from 7am to 3am, and
Happy Hour is from 4-5pm M-F. Weekend Specials and a \$9.50
Sunday Brunch are also available. www.lapinata.com. (Look for La
Pinata #6 opening mid-August in Concord with 2 tequila bars!)

Sabuy Sabuy II

1233 San Pablo, Berkeley (510) 528-3932
Enjoy Thai cuisine with California flair at the new Sabuy Sabuy
II. Your visit will begin with a warm greeting, welcoming you to
experience Sabuy Sabuy's specialties: savory soups, salads, delicious
meat and Vegetarian dishes, all prepared with only the freshest
vegetables and meats by family cooks with decades of experience.
Dinner is served M-Sat from 5-9:30pm. Lunch is served daily from
11 am - 3pm with specials starting at \$5.95.

Spisekammer

2424 Lincoln Ave., Alameda (510) 522-1300
Spisekammer presents Modern German Cuisine that is good
for the body and soul. Sauerbraten, Wiener Schnitzel and a
house recipe Bratwurst are standards. Light fare such as the
Gemusestrudel (Vegetable Strudel with Goat Cheese, Roasted
Red Pepper and Spinach. Served in a Carrot Sauce) give the
menu a modern (or California) twist. There is a word in the
German language that has no counterpart in English:
Gemutlichkeit. It connotes a combination of comfort,
friendship, and the general sentiment of being completely at
ease with your surroundings. Spisekammer's atmosphere is
Gemutlich. Large tables and a private room make it a great
place for groups. The Beer is Strictly German, the Cocktails
are Distinctly American, and the wine list has some of each.
Lunch is served Tues-Fri - Grilled Pannini Sandwiches and
Salads are offered along with some of the more popular
entrée items. Sunday Brunch is to die for! 10am-2pm.
Dinner is served Tues-Sun W, \$\$-\$\$\$ AC, FB, RR

Exciting Exotic

JAPANESE CUISINE AND SPIRITS



KAMAKURA

2549 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda
510.521.9121

Sabuy Sabuy II

THAI CUISINE

Savory Soups, Fresh Salads
Delicious Meat and Vegetarian Dishes

Dinner Mon-Sat, 5-9:30 Sun, 5-9:30 • 4-8:30

Lunch 11-3 Daily

Specials Starting at \$5.95

1233 San Pablo Ave.
Berkeley • (510) 528-3932



tomatina

Bay Area favorite for Pizza, Pasta, Piadine
Hours: 11:30 AM - 10 PM

No Reservations - Alameda - Walnut Creek - Santa Clara

Tomatina Restaurant

1338 Park St.
Alameda, CA 510-521-1000

Tomatina

1338 Park Street, Alameda (510) 521-1000
Tomatina is a Bay Area favorite for pizza, pasta, piadine and more!
Our house-made pizza dough, dressings and sauces keep our food
ahead of the rest. We update our menu several times a year to
showcase seasonal produce, introduce new selections and keep our
wine and beer selections exciting. Recently we introduced autumn
flavors such as mushrooms, roasted tomatoes, white beans and
squashes as well as a warm apple crisp and dense, fudgy chocolate
cake. We pride ourselves on fresh, flavorful dishes, excellent service
and a casual atmosphere as well as attractive and clean restaurants.
We offer something for every guest: anything from lunch with friends
and co-workers, a quick meal before a movie with the family or a
casual spot for a first date. Come hungry; from garlic rolls to start
and tiramisu to finish, we have what you want to eat! Check out our
complete menus at www.tomatina.com. Restaurant Hours: 11:30 am to
10:00 pm. No reservations, first come, first seated. Large groups (10+) are
encouraged to call ahead. Cash, DC, V, MC, AE, no checks.

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Greek Mediterranean, Continental Cuisine
Catering:
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Corporate Functions • Weddings
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10% off
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1265 Harbor Bay Pkwy #100 • Alameda
510.522.7991 • 510.522.7789 fax

La Pinata 3
1440 PARK STREET
ALAMEDA
510.769.9111 • 510.769.9110
OPEN 7AM-3AM MON-SUN
www.lapinata.com

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AGAVE TEQUILA IN THE BAY AREA
COME AND ENJOY OUR
TEQUILA BAR WITH HAPPY HOUR
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 4-6PM
\$4.99 HOUSE MARGARITAS!
\$4.99 HOT TOP SHELF MARGARITAS!
\$4.99 APPETIZERS 1/2 OFF!

Spisekammer
AT SPISEKAMMER, PARTY TIL
ZE COWS KOMM HOME
Spisekammer - A German Take On Alameda
Modern German Cuisine
2424 Lincoln Avenue Alameda 510-522-1300
www.spisekammer.com



SHERRY LAVARS/STAFF

PIZZAIOLLO'S AND DINERS resemble each other at hip new Pizzaiolo.

Is there, in Oakland — the new dining scene

By John Birdsall
CORRESPONDENT

At it one way and Char-
Hallowell's 4-month-old
— already a local in-
— is just a pizza parlor.
Hallowell's an alumnus of Chez
in Berkeley. But unlike
other chefs who point to
(sometimes very little)
Panisse time on their re-
Hallowell really got it. In
way, Chez Panisse
(to have been Hallowell's
ownership, and not just be-
gave him the opportu-
to memorize the pizza
recipe. Hallowell seems
soaked up Alice Waters'
vision as surely as a
baker soaks up the smell
of quite charcoal: that a
can help a community
itself.

community that seems to
itself in Pizzaiolo's
is very different from the
roves the North Berke-
ghetto in BMW
looking for street parking.
y's community seems
young and adorably
likely to show up un-
in authentically
low-rise jeans, dark
Puma sneakers.
Even if you have no
for adorably scruffy,
way here some Sat-
night (it's just a few blocks
way 24) to Oakland's
neighborhood —
with new urban spirit —
Pizzaiolo (they don't
reservations) and look
at. This is the face of the
restaurant culture.
Funny thing about Piz-
restaurant culture is
feels strikingly old. The
storefront (it used to
hardware store) has the qual-
1960s Greenwich Vil-
houses had — pieces
emporary style scattered
in ozone-stained rooms of
urban antiquity. At Piz-
the nicotine is only sug-
gness it's smoke from the
burning pizza oven) on
walls smeared here and
with wide patches of plas-
of the charm — and all
ool — comes from several
wooden bucket chairs,
backed of hand-blown glass.
George Nelson's elon-
ments of the 1950s and a
muse-colored rectangular
table (very much) from the iconic
Sausalito ceramics com-
bination.
The plates are from Heath,
and what's on them is every-
fresh, timeless and radi-

PIZZAIOLO

REVIEW VISIT ON OCT. 8

- **WHERE:** 5008 Telegraph Ave. (at 51st), Oakland.
- **HOURS:** 5:30-10 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays; closed Sunday and Mondays.
- **PARKING:** Metered street parking (free after 6 p.m.).
- **CONTACT:** 510-652-4888; pizzaiolo.us.
- **DATE OPENED:** June 21.
- **PRINCIPALS:** Charlie Hallowell and Omar White.
- **RESERVATIONS:** No.
- **PRIVATE PARTIES:** No.
- **NOISE LEVEL:** High.
- **MOOD:** Rustic, stylish and urban, like the Temescal neighborhood it's helping to define.
- **SPECIAL AREA:** Wait for one of the booths.
- **SERVICE POINT:** Laid-back: Servers dress like clerks at Urban Outfitters, and are enthusiastic about the food, if not always well-versed in the changing daily specials. They might forget to bring something you've ordered, but they'll be cool about making it right.

cally simple as the design.

So many thin-crust pizzas have come out of so many Bay Area kitchens lately that it's hard to keep up. But here, the pizzas are in a class apart, delicate things that blister on the floor of the roaring wood oven into homely, blackened discs as distinctive as Indian naan bread. Like a steak grilled over real wood charcoal (versus one cooked over propane's hissing blue fire), Pizzaiolo's wood-oven pizzas strike you as the real deal.

They really are remarkable, these pizzas, chewy near the rim, elsewhere so thin they're like leaves of strudel pastry, only sturdier. In most case, the scant toppings honor them, the way a proper sugo honors a plate of fresh pasta, never distracting from the noodles themselves. Cherry Tomato, Genoa Salami & Parsley (\$15) is typical: Moist, fragile lumps of cherry tomato have all but dissolved into the crust — they're delicately tart and sweet the way some heavy tomato sauce could never be. Pastry slices of salami have the sharp, mildewed perfume of long-cured pork fat, while leaves of flat-leaf parsley tossed with vinaigrette, wilting onto the hot pizza, hum with vibrancy.

A pizza spread with Wild Net-
tles with Pecorino (\$15) is alive

FOOD



(overall value rating of our visit; out of a possible 5)

- **CUISINE:** Italian-style wood-fired pizzas, pastas and antipasti.
- **PRICES:** \$\$\$ (pizzas, pastas and main courses \$10-\$23).
- **HOME RUN:** Pizza of Wild Nettles with Pecorino.
- **STRIKEOUT:** None.
- **VEGETARIAN:** Ask for a meatless

The pizzas are in a class apart, delicate things that blister on the floor of the roaring wood oven into homely, blackened discs as distinctive as Indian naan bread.

with tension. Green and meaty-tasting, faintly sour and bitter, wilted nettles enhance the scant amount of sheep's milk cheese, earthy and pungent.

Pizza Alla Pizzaiolo (\$15) is the daily special. Tonight it's covered with lumps of housemade sausage, slivers of Lipstick and Gypsy peppers and parsley. The peppers are musky, sweet and faintly hot, the sausage tender — but it's too busy, lacking the magnifying-glass focus of the other pizzas. Hallowell kills when he attempts less. A first course, Pork Meatballs Cooked in Milk with Lemon & Grana (\$12), is a quiet triumph, tender as cake, warm, light and fragrant.

And as Hallowell, working the pizza oven, looking as young as some of his customers, fusses with the iPod (hooked up to speakers, it's the restaurant's entire sound system), cranking the volume on an Otis Redding track, you get it: This place is all about narrowing the scope of perfectibility.

Pizzaiolo makes a virtue out of offering less, but does it so well, it blows away restaurants of greater scope and ambition. No wonder the community's embracing it:

pizza, or choose from at least half a dozen antipasti or pastas.

■ **KIDS MENU:** Ask for the kitchen to make a pizza as simple as your kids want it to be.

■ **DESSERTS:** Housemade and distinctive. Wood-Fired Pears (\$10) emerge from the pizza oven-blistered but firm, swimming in a thin, buttery sauce that tastes like caramelized brown sugar. Buttermilk Panna Cotta (\$8) is delicious, but Melon-Prosecco Sorbet (\$5), sweet and slushy, may be the perfect finish to a meal here.

■ **FREEBIES:** Chewy levain bread and sweet butter.

■ **BEVERAGES:** Beer and wine.

■ **FOOD COST (pre-tax):** \$121; three appetizers, one entree, three pizzas, three desserts.

Hallowell's restaurant represents the triumph of the slacker.

Reach East Bay food writer John Birdsall at jwbirdsall@sbcglobal.net.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BEST SELLERS

Compiled from sales at 45 independent bookstores in Northern California.

Fiction

1. "Saving Fish From Drowning," by Amy Tan. (Putnam, \$26.95.)
2. "On Beauty," by Zadie Smith. (Penguin, \$25.95.)
3. "Son of a Witch," by Gregory Maguire. (ReganBooks, \$26.95.)
4. "Knife of Dreams," by Robert Jordan. (Tor, \$29.95.)
5. "The March," by E.L. Doctorow. (Random House, \$25.95.)
6. "The Lincoln Lawyer," by Michael Connelly. (Little, Brown, \$26.95.)
7. "A Breath of Snow and Ashes," by Diana Gabaldon. (Delacorte, \$28.)
8. "Anansi Boys," by Neil Gaiman. (William Morrow, \$26.95.)
9. "Cinnamon Kiss," by Walter Mosley. (Little, Brown, \$24.95.)
10. "Shallamar the Clown," by Salman Rushdie. (Random House, \$25.95.)

Nonfiction

1. "A Crack in the Edge of the World," by Simon Winchester. (HarperCollins, \$27.95.)
2. "Healthy Aging," by Andrew Weil. (Knopf, \$27.95.)
3. "Freeconomics," by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner. (William Morrow, \$25.95.)
4. "The Year of Magical Thinking," by Joan Didion. (Knopf, \$23.95.)
5. "The City of Falling Angels," by John Berendt. (Penguin, \$25.95.)
6. "The World Is Flat," by Thomas L. Friedman. (FSG, \$27.50.)
7. "Spook," by Mary Roach. (Norton, \$24.95.)
8. "Mao," by Jung Chang, Jon Halliday. (Knopf, \$35.)
9. "Blink," by Malcolm Gladwell. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.)
10. "A New Earth," by Eckhart Tolle. (Dutton, \$24.95.)

Trade paperback fiction

1. "The Kite Runner," by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$14.)
2. "Snow," by Orhan Pamuk. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
3. "Wicked," by Gregory Maguire. (Re-

- ganBooks, \$15.)
4. "The Plot Against America," by Philip Roth. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
5. "The Shadow of the Wind," by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. (Penguin, \$15.)
6. "The Line of Beauty," by Alan Hollinghurst. (Bloomsbury, \$14.95.)
7. "How We Are Hungry," by Dave Eggers. (Vintage, \$13.)
8. "Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell," by Susanna Clark. (Bloomsbury, \$15.95.)
9. "Case Histories," by Kate Atkinson. (Back Bay, \$13.95.)
10. "The Known World," by Edward P. Jones. (Amistad, \$13.95.)

Trade paperback nonfiction

1. "A Million Little Pieces," by James Frey. (Anchor, \$14.95.)
2. "Chronicles," by Bob Dylan. (S&S, \$14.)
3. "Zagat San Francisco/Bay Area Restaurants," by the Editors of Zagat Survey. (Zagat Survey, \$13.95.)
4. "The End of Faith," by Sam Harris. (Norton, \$13.95.)
5. "The Tipping Point," by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay, \$14.95.)
6. "The Devil in the White City," by Erik Larson. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
7. "In Cold Blood," by Truman Capote. (Vintage, \$14.)
8. "The Book of Secrets," by Deepak Chopra. (Three Rivers, \$14.)
9. "Bad Dog," by R.D. Rosen, et al. (Workman, \$9.95.)
10. "Imperial Ambitions," by Noam Chomsky. (Metropolitan, \$15.)

Mass market paperback

1. "Dressed for Death," by Donna Leon. (Penguin, \$7.99.)
2. "The Constant Gardener," by John Le Carré. (Pocket, \$7.99.)
3. "Going Postal," by Terry Pratchett. (HarperTorch, \$7.99.)
4. "Angels & Demons," by Dan Brown. (Pocket, \$7.99.)
5. "London Bridges," by James Patterson. (Warner, \$7.99.)

— Northern California Independent Booksellers Association

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EAST BAY WORKS



ITIONS

Bay Repertory Theatre — Ac-
commodations from teenagers for
annual "Target Teen One Acts"
through Dec. 2. A committee
will submit nominations on several crit-
teria and two winners will be selected
to perform with theater professionals.
Nominations to: Nevo Education
1025 Addison St., Berkeley,
for information, visit www.ber.org or 510-647-2972.

Com Vivo — Now audition-
ing for parts for 100-voice commu-
nity choir for 2005-06 season. Visit
www.comvivo.org. 510-836-0789.

Diablo Valley Theatre — "Bell, Book
& Candle," Dec. 12-13, 7 p.m., 3683
Castro Valley Three males:
20-30, another between 50-60
and about 40; and two fe-
males 20-30 and the other about
40. 510-657-5322 or alibiothink.com

Costa Chorus — Seeking
singers and soloists for 2005-06
season. The chorus is a nonprofit,
volunteer-based chorus with a mission
to perform music in a variety of

styles to Bay Area audiences. Appoint-
ments: 510-524-1861.

■ **Diablo Valley Masterworks Chorus** — For winter session. Mondays, 7-10 p.m., Diablo Valley College Music Building, Room 101, 321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill. All voices welcome. 925-228-8690.

■ **Diablo Women's Chorus** — Mondays at 7:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 2317 Buena Vista Ave., Walnut Creek. Welcoming new members to sing two-, three- and four-part harmony for holiday concert. 925-736-4157 or visit www.angelfire.com/ca/dwchorale.

■ **East Bay Children's Theatre** — "Cinderella and the Glass Slipper," Nov. 19, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Kehila Community Synagogue, 1300 Grand Ave., Oakland. Need male and female adult actors and singers. Bring sheet music in own key, dress to move and prepare for a cold read. 510-537-9957 or visit www.childrens-theatre.org.

■ **J&L Center Stage Inc.** — "Remembering Eleanor," Danville Woods Clubhouse, 640 Sycamore Circle, Danville. Need one male in his 40s to play FDR.

Appointments: 925-820-7216. Visit
www.jlocenterstage.com.

■ **MAJOR/minors Youth Choir** — Currently accepting members, ages 12-15, for choir based in Walnut Creek. Contact Abigail Cote, 925-300-5471.

■ **Oakland-East Bay Gay Men's Chorus** — Tenors, baritone and basses needed for 30-member ensemble. Appointments: 800-706-2389, auditions@oebgmc.org or visit www.oebgmc.org.

■ **Pittsburg Community Theatre** — "All My Sons," Nov. 6-7, 7:30 p.m., Community Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Leland Road, Pittsburg. Need one male in 60s; four males, 30-40; 1 boy, 8-10; two females, 60s; and three females, 20-40. Prepare a three-minute monologue and cold read from script. 925-439-PLAY.

■ **Solano Repertory Company** — "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf," Nov. 27, 1 p.m.; Nov. 28, 6 p.m., or by appointment. Send resume and headshot in advance to SRC, P.O. Box 363, Fairfield, CA 94533. Missouri Street Theatre, 1125 Missouri St., Fairfield. Appointments: 707-422-1598.

Arts & Leisure

Friday, November 4, 2005



J.B. ALDERMAN
On DVDs

'Sith' a satisfying, but violent end

STAR WARS: EPISODE III — REVENGE OF THE SITH

Seeing the first "Star Wars" film in 1977 changed my life. OK — that's an overstatement, but seeing the first installment of George Lucas's epic as a third grader had a profound impact on me, and to this day it ranks as one of my favorite films of all time. This enthusiasm for the "Star Wars" series remained strong until the release in 1999 of the overwrought "Phantom Menace," which seemed to be more focused on trying new computer animated special effects tricks than in telling a story.

Fortunately, "Sith" redeems the weaknesses of episodes 1 and 2, and combines great special effects with a true appreciation for the mythology the films have created. The acting and dialogue in "Sith" is atrocious (even Ewan McGregor is stilted), but who cares — that has never been the strong suit of the Lucas team.

The transformation of a troubled Anakin Skywalker into Darth Vader, the central theme of the DVD, makes this a violent movie and not appropriate for kids under 12. Film buffs with plenty of time on their hands should consider watching a "Star Wars" marathon, and view all six DVDs in episode order to get the full scope of this epic series. (PG-13: Violence). 2 hour and 20 minutes.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):
Overall: 3 stars
Kids: 3 stars
Teens: 4 stars
Adults: 3 stars
Seniors: 2 stars
Should you rent it? Yes — A satisfying conclusion to the epic "Star Wars" series.

HERBIE: FULLY LOADED

The idea of a thinking, winking car is as cute today as it was when the original "Herbie" was released by Disney in 1968. Lindsay Lohan is endearing in the starring role as the grown-up tomboy who still longs to race with the men at NASCAR. My 5-year-old son loves "Fully Loaded," and if Herbie's antics don't charm you and your kids, then nothing will. (G). 1 hour and 41 minutes.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):
Overall: 2½ stars
Kids: 3½ stars
Teens: 2½ stars
Adults: 2½ stars
Seniors: 2½ stars
Should you rent it? Yes — Upbeat, enjoyable retread on a family favorite.

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Like a beautiful old house that has been painstakingly and lovingly restored, this remastered edition of the classic "Oz" sparkles in a way that modern films can only hope to replicate. L. Frank Baum's "Oz" book series — he wrote 14 of them — has been a favorite in the Alderman family for three generations. The classic story of Dorothy, Toto, the Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion traipsing around a magical fairyland makes a perfect transition to film, and Judy Garland's beautiful singing will blow you away. There are some scary parts in the DVD, and parents should make sure they watch "Oz" with younger kids to help comfort them if the Wicked Witch gets a bit too wicked. (G). 1 hour and 41 minutes.

Ratings (out of 4 stars):
Overall: 4 stars
Kids: 4 stars
Teens: 2½ stars
Adults: 4 stars
Seniors: 4 stars
Should you rent it? Yes — Skip the rental; just buy this masterpiece so you can own it forever.

J.B. Alderman lives in Piedmont and can be reached via PhDVD.com.

Day of the Dead memorials convey hope,

DAY OF THE DEAD commemorations spread from Mexico and Central America to the United States long ago, but artists continue to expand their scope to include a world of tragic events.

Four years ago, artists preparing exhibits for the SomArts Cultural Center in San Francisco were interrupted by news of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Quickly but poignantly, many of them reworked their concepts to include memorials to the dead and messages of hope for the future.

This year, Day of the Dead exhibits at SomArts and the Oakland Museum again deal with the personal loss brought on by major world events, with grief tempered by a sliver of hopefulness.

The Oakland Museum exhibit includes, of course, the traditional ofrendas, colorful, flower-bedecked offerings to honor departed family and friends at the time of the Day of the Dead, the beginning of November.

But there are also powerful reminders of deaths from recent hurricanes and floods in the Gulf Coast states, the Pacific tsunami, the war in Iraq, and continuing losses from AIDS.

The Oakland exhibit is titled "Calavera: Days of the Dead Altars Remixed." Guest curator Jaime Cortez and the artists explore the way Mexican and Central American spiritual traditions have inspired California artists. But the artists don't stop at the state's borders.

Cortez, an Oakland artist, takes over a dark corner of the gallery to create a portion of an elongated, ghostly ship made from scrap wood. Titled "Natural," it might have been pieced together by fleeing refugees from the Pacific tsunami that killed more than 200,000 people. Cortez adds a window, with a view inside to a painting of what seem to be panicked survivors.

"I would like to come to peaceful terms with the realities of massive deaths from natural disasters," Cortez says in one of the exhibit's many thoughtful texts. "By honoring the power of oceans and the earth, I hope to find comfort in the inexorable forces of nature."

Another exhibit was devised by artists and the Oakland Museum's own staff, stunned by images of Gulf Coast hurricane victims as they were planning the Day of the Dead installations.

Simple and powerful, the exhibit is titled "A Loss of Civilization." It consists of the



"A PROMISE KEPT" by Bea Carrillo Hocker is one of the many memorials on display at "Calavera: Days of the Dead Altars Remixed" at the Oakland Museum. Below, "Loss of Civilization" is a creation by artists Andy Luke, Jenny Cole, Andrew Woodd, Steve Briscoe, and Steven Thornburgh.



ROBERT TAYLOR
In the Galleries

GALLERIES

■ OAKLAND MUSEUM:
"Calavera: Days of the Dead Altars Remixed," through Dec. 4, Tenth and Oak streets, Oakland; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturdays, noon-6 p.m. Sundays, \$5-\$8, free ages 5 and under, 510-238-2200, www.museumca.org

pro of a small-scale lifeboat painted with red crosses, topped by floating magnolias representing the South, a semicircular mirror and a candle "honoring the spirit of those lost." It was created by Andy Luke, Jenny Cole, Andrew Woodd, Steve Briscoe and Steven Thornburgh.

Carlos Cartagena's "When I Go Away" includes a coffin out-

fitted with a music box and lenses to view miniature figures inside. But more eerie and poignant is the table and chair nearby that hold a man's belongings left behind: slacks, shirt, undershorts, keys, a gold chain and nail clippers. Plus a diary with a last notation about death taking him away — "Si la muerte viene por mí."

Oakland artist Al Lujan's altar, "Mary/Gold," is cross-cultural. It continues the Oaxacan tradition of spreading marigold flower petals to lead the spirits to a home, and it also draws from Buddhist tradition.

"It is a reminder," Lujan says in his text, "of the Buddhist practice which brought me peace and solace after I lost my mother, my grandmother and my partner." Among the exhibit's colorful flowers, toys, costume jewelry and miniature skulls are buttons from an AIDS activist group.

Berkeley artist Ehren Tool continues his distinctive series of handmade cups with a military theme, especially tailored for this "Calavera" exhibit.

Each of the 70 white stoneware cups, embedded with military images and glazed inside with red, represents one of the Cali-

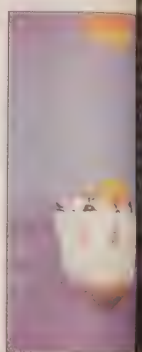
fornians killed in Iraq from Nov. 2, 2004, to Nov. 2, 2005. He has also prepared a video presentation that focuses on them, one by one.

"I think the best memorials to the dead," Tool says, "are those that encourage people not to let war happen again."

The more familiar ofrendas in the Oakland exhibit celebrate the lives of departed friends and family. Andrea Vargas-Mendoza and the Vargas family honor painter Jack Vargas, who died 10 years ago, and Maria Carreno dedicates her altar to Ralph Maradiaga, one of the founders of San Francisco's Galeria de la Raza.

Always charming, as well as poignant, are the exhibits created by children with the help of artists. This year they're from Sequoia Elementary School in Oakland and Longfellow Middle School in Berkeley. Sequoia's presentation, "Where I'm From — Connecting to Our Ancestors," is filled with handmade puppet figures of family members.

ALSO ON VIEW: "Rituals in the Journey of Life and Death," at SomArts Cultural Center, also draws from hurricane im-



ages, with plenty of edginess. Open noon Mondays-Saturdays, Nov. 5, 934 Brannan (Ninth Street), S.F., 41414.

Antioch artist John Day of the Dead exhibit that city's Lynn House Nov. 3-19. Open noon Thursdays-Saturdays, 925-779-7018.

Reach Robert Taylor at 977-8428 or rtaylor@times.com.

Berkeley orchestra shines at showing off Schuman

By Georgia Rowe
CORRESPONDENT

The Berkeley Symphony opened its 2005/06 season Tuesday night at Zellerbach Hall, and under the direction of Kent Nagano, the Bay Area's most adventurous orchestra made the familiar sound thrilling and the experimental seem intriguing.

Music lovers have come to expect nothing less from Nagano, who, during his 27 years as the organization's music director, has introduced audiences to new music by composers from Thomas Ades to Frank Zappa, with many others in between.

This season, Nagano has announced his intention to focus on the music of Robert Schumann, and Tuesday's performance of the composer's Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, the "Rhenish," got the exploration off to a magnificent start. Schumann is hardly an unknown quantity for Berkeley audiences, but an intent listener might have thought so upon hearing this performance.

Composed in 1850 — just after Schumann arrived in Düsseldorf to assume the position of municipal music director — the "Rhenish" is a work characterized by tremendous buoyancy and optimism.

Those qualities came through beautifully in Nagano's reading. In essence, though, what the conductor proposed was heroic rather than lyrical Schumann. The brilliant cross-rhythms of

CONCERT REVIEW

the first movement sounded particularly emphatic; under Nagano's baton, the composer's swirling episodes ebbed and flowed with great vitality and clear definition.

The rest of the symphony was just as fine. There were a few moments of dubious coordination in the Scherzo, but the strings sounded crisp and sweet, the brass burnished, the woodwinds elegant. The central movement, marked "Not fast," burbled along agreeably; in contrast, the sheer weight of the fourth movement — Schumann's monument to the Cathedral at Cologne — conveyed its own sense of majesty. Nagano imparted the requisite frothiness, but also surprising delicacy, to the finale.

The evening opened with Schumann's "Manfred" Overture, and here, too, Nagano stirred up an impressive sense of grandeur and a world of inner detail. If these two performances are any indication of what's in store for the rest of the season (the Dec. 2 program includes Schumann's "Spring" Symphony), it should be a very good Schumann year indeed.

Tuesday's program also included Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 4 in D major, with Caitlin Tully as soloist. The 17-year-old violinist — a Canadian-born Texas resident, and a student of



VIOLINIST CAITLIN TULLY, 17, radiated youthful enthusiasm for a Mozart concerto at a Berkeley Symphony concert conducted by music director Kent Nagano on Tuesday night in Zellerbach Hall.

Itzhak Perlman — possesses plenty of technique, and she plunged into Mozart's youthful concerto with headstrong assurance. In time, Tully may approach the work with a keener sense of introspection; for now, her obvious passion for the composer's music is enough.

It seems no Berkeley Symphony program is complete without a 20th century work, and

"Stria," by composer John Chowning, was Tuesday's contemporary entry. Chowning's score is based on "unharmonics" — sounds that don't exist in the natural world — assembled in layers, then deconstructed until only a single tone remains. Presented in association with UC Berkeley's Center for New Music and Audio Technologies (CNMAT), the 15-minute perfor-

mance included computer-generated visuals projected on a large screen, allowing the audience to track the progress, reversal and introduction of the work. Chowning's introduction may have been as enlightening as the performance served as a bridge between Schumann's

Hyundai introduces all-new flagship: The 2006 Azera

BY CONNIE KEANE
MOTOR MATTERS

From A to Z, Hyundai covers all the bases in launching a new era for premium sedans. The 2006 Hyundai Azera is a new entry in the large sedan

segment. Azera is available in two models, the Limited and the SE, while the Limited is priced at \$30,000. In this category, the Azera is approaching the prices found in entry-luxury sedans. In a daring move, Hyundai has tossed its hat into the premium car segment.

Hyundai's new flagship is competing by offering a beautifully styled large sedan with an exceptionally smart-looking exterior and loads of thoughtful amenities. The Azera has a sunshade, power folding side mirrors and rain-sensing wipers. They also wrapped the A-, B- and C- pillars. Actually, Hyundai says the Azera competes with the Avalon, Maxima, and the Five Hundred sedans.

The Azera's new flagship is powered by a new, all-aluminum 3.8-liter V6 engine and the six cylinders in breathing and maximize the low and high torque available to this engine, Hyundai equipped its new large sedan with continuously variable Valve Timing and Variable Intake System. The 24-valve overhead cam engine produces 263 horsepower at 6,000 rpm and 255 pounds-foot of torque at 4,000 rpm. This powerful engine is mated to a five-speed automatic transmission, featuring a gated gearshift with manual controls.

Several observations about the Azera's engine during a test-drive from sea level in San Francisco's 3,000 feet elevation in the Cleveland Park. The powerplant worked well when under heavy acceleration on steep climbs along the mountainous ridges, smooth tones emanated from the exhaust pipes in the rear and the automatic transmission smoothly — almost undetectably.



THE 2006 HYUNDAI AZERA is a new entry in the large sedan segment.

MOTOR MATTERS

KEANE ON WHEELS

The only area of engineering tweaking I would like to see done is in the on-center feel in the steering wheel. Through the steering system, I got a little too much floating sensation when wrapping around some of those U-shaped hilly roadway curves. I would like to have had a tighter feel in this area of my driving experience with the Azera.

The Azera replaces Hyundai's former flagship, the XG350. Compared to the XG, this new sedan is built to offer more controlled ride motions and is 68 percent improved in body stiffness. Hyundai says in the past the XG had been criticized for its soft ride.

The Azera offers a large cabin for passengers. It is among the largest in the full-size sedan category. The Azera has an EPA-rated interior volume of 123.5 cubic feet,

HYUNDAI AZERA

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger, full-size, four-wheel drive sedan
Suggested Retail	\$25,000 (estimated)
Price As Tested	\$30,000 (estimated)
Engine Type	24-valve DOHC V6 w/MPFI
Horsepower	263 @ 6,000 rpm
Torque	255 @ 4,500 rpm
Transmission	Five-speed automatic w/OD
Wheelbase	109 inches
Height	59 inches
Curb Weight	3,629 pounds
Fuel Capacity	20 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 19/29 (preliminary)

which makes it larger than the BMW 760i, Mercedes S-Class and Toyota Avalon.

The inside is well crafted with elegant workmanship. Certain things impressed me, such as the wood grain trim elegantly wrapped along the dashboard and even

on the rear passenger door handles. The black leather seating was softly cushioned and the interior doorills featured metal plating with name Azera inscribed along the bottom.

Standard safety equipment in the 2006

Azera includes eight airbags: advanced dual front, front and rear seat-mounted side-impact airbags. The Azera is also standard-equipped with electronic stability control, traction control and anti-lock brakes with electronic brake-force distribution. Buyers looking for an upscale sedan ought to test-drive the 2006 Azera.

INSIDE

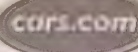
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Use the recommended octane gasoline

BY JUNIOR DAMATO
MOTOR MATTERS

Dear Doctor: I own a 2004 Acura TL with 9,000 miles. The manual states the use of 91-octane or higher. A friend suggested I switch to 87-octane. I did for the last 500 miles. I did not feel any difference. Can I continue to use the 87-octane gasoline? — John

Dear John: The reason the manufacturer suggests the higher octane is because your engine has high compression and is also high revving. The use of a lower octane is not advised. Over time it can cause carbon build-up that you cannot get rid of with a bottle of additive. The lower octane also burns cooler than the higher octane. I personally do not recommend using a lower octane than what the manufacturer recommends.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1998 Chevrolet Lumina with only 31,000 miles. Since mid-October, eight times I have turned the key and nothing happens. After a half hour, I turn the key and it's perfect. The dealer suggested replacing the starter motor, but the next day I had the same problem. I like the car, but need to get it repaired. — Joyce

Dear Joyce: A test light bulb hooked up to the solenoid side of

AUTO DOCTOR

the starter motor will indicate if power is getting to the starter when you turn the key. This is very inexpensive to hook up. It is the only way to check power at the starter when the starter does not engage. There have been some problems with the anti-theft systems. The cylinder and key could also be at fault. Have the technician hook up a small light by the windshield wiper area so you can see the light when the key is turned to the start position. This will cost around \$100, but is well worth it.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1996 Mercury Grand Marquis with 100,000 miles. When I first start the car in the morning and try to accelerate, the engine sometimes stalls out. It does this more so when the temperature is colder. It almost feels like it needs more gas. — Roger

Dear Roger: You could be right, the problem could be low fuel pressure, coolant sensor and act sensor out of range, carbon build-up, or dirty fuel injectors with poor spray pattern. Leave the car overnight at your local shop so they can hook up test equipment and check the

sensors' values before even starting the engine.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1990 Toyota Camry with 200,000 miles. After driving a half hour and parking the car, I hear bubbling coolant in the overflow tank. The longer I drive the more it happens. I have not lost any coolant and the dealer said not to worry about it. The radiator and head gasket were replaced three years ago. — Marion

Dear Marion: It could be as simple as a bad radiator cap not sealing properly. The bubbling doesn't necessarily mean over-heating. You did not mention anything about the thermostat or replacement. Make sure the thermostat has a small bypass valve or hole to help prevent air pockets in the cooling system. Colder temperatures are here now, so as long as it does not leak or overheat, I would only put the new radiator cap on. Make sure the electric cooling fan is working.

Dear Doctor: What differences are there in the suspension systems between the Toyota Camry and Lexus ES 330? I know they are built on the same platform. Also, why such a big difference in the price? — Michael

Dear Michael: Both sedans have the same platform. The Lexus

ES 330 comes as you see it loaded with standard features and a V-6 engine. As for the suspension system, the Lexus part numbers are not the same as Toyota, but some parts are interchangeable. I have always found the Lexus parts more expensive than Toyota's. With our shop database, I am able to look up the Lexus part number and give it my local Toyota parts department. The Lexus also has been designed as a luxury vehicle.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1992 Ford Crown Victoria with 30,000 miles. On a long trip in hot weather the brakes got so hot they started to lock up. I pulled over and waited about an hour for them to cool down. My drive home was fine. I went to my local shop and was told the brakes are dusty. — Sal

Dear Sal: It sounds like the brake calipers stuck from dirty caliper slides, internally sticking original calipers, or the master cylinder did not release fully. Start with a full brake inspection and caliper replacement, along with both front brake flex hoses. Anytime a brake system gets extremely hot the rubber seals break down. Also, change the brake fluid.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, 3 Court Circle, Lakeville, MA 02347.

Confused about car care? Some guidelines to follow

Car care can be intimidating, often because people don't know what to check on their vehicles — or when to check it — to keep them in good working condition.

A recent survey by the Car Care Council found that 38 percent of cars had low or dirty engine oil, more than 50 percent had low tire pressure and an alarming number of vehicles had not been properly maintained.

Being proactive about vehicle maintenance will not only keep your vehicle in good condition, but save you time and money as well. Here are some guidelines for what to check, and when, from the experts at Firestone Complete Auto Care:

■ Every other fuel fill-up: en-

gine oil and washer fluid.

■ Every oil change: antifreeze, air filter and battery.

■ Monthly: belts, brake fluid, hoses, power steering fluid, tire air pressure, tire tread depth and overall condition, and transmission fluid.

■ Every six months: wiper blades.

■ Annually: exhaust system.

■ Replace when out or worn: lights, shock absorbers.

■ Refer to vehicle owner's manual: change oil, rotate tires.

Experts also recommend that drivers keep an emergency kit in their vehicles. This too can be confusing, as people don't always know what to include in an emergency kit.

Here are a few items Firestone

Complete Auto Care suggests you have to help prepare for unforeseen circumstances on the road:

- Jumper cables
- Flashlight and batteries
- Reflector
- Protective gloves
- Toolkit
- Flares and matches
- Gallon of water
- Nonperishable food
- Portable air compressor
- Auto Club membership card
- In the winter months: a shovel, bag of kitty litter or sand and a blanket.

With a basic car care checklist to help keep your vehicle running well and a comprehensive vehicle emergency kit, you can drive with confidence knowing that you'll be prepared for any "bump in the road."

Trisha Hessinger, an automotive education specialist and former racecar driver, is a national spokeswoman for Firestone Complete Auto Care's award-winning Car Care Academy program. For details on the Car Care Academy program, visit www.MasterCareUSA.com.

The next time you fill up, remember to check your oil.

What to do after an accident

Shorter days, longer nights and nasty wintry weather all mean that car drivers have to be even more cautious and aware while they're on the road at this time of year.

Unfortunately, accidents do happen. It's worthwhile for all drivers to know what to do in such a situation. In fact, because we're not always thinking so clearly right after an accident, it's a good idea to print out a list of to-do's and save it in your car with your auto insurance information.

Here's what to do in such a situation. Following these tips will make the auto insurance claims process go more smoothly and help get you back on the road faster. (You may even want to print these tips and keep them in your glove compartment should you ever need them.)

■ Make sure everyone's okay. If anyone's injured, immediately call medical help to the scene. (If your injuries are minor, you may still want to have them checked out at a hospital or with your family doctor. Sometimes injuries that appear minor are really more serious.)

■ Try to remain calm.

■ Do not admit fault to anyone.

■ Seek police involvement. Police officers are trained to handle traffic accidents. They will also determine who's at fault.

■ Allow medical professionals and/or law enforcement officials to collect the accident scene.

■ Discuss the accident only with the police and your auto insurance company. During the claims process, if another party to the accident or another auto insurance company contacts you, do not discuss the accident with them and do not agree to make a recorded statement. Simply refer any questions about the accident to your claims representative.

■ With the help of a police officer, gather information from everyone involved in the accident. Obtain names, addresses, phone numbers, and auto insurance information from all parties involved. Also, be sure to get contact information from any witnesses. It's a good idea to store a pen and pad of paper in your vehicle. In the event of an accident, you can record the information your auto insurance company needs to complete your auto insurance claim more quickly.

■ If you have a camera with you, take photos to document vehicle damage, the intersection where the accident occurred, skid marks, and any other features of the accident scene. For this reason, we recommend you carry a disposable camera in your glove compartment, should you ever need it. Some new cell phone models have built-in digital cameras that would help to doc-

ument the accident.

■ Report the incident immediately. Call your insurance company.

■ As soon as possible, write down your own detailed recollection of the accident.

For more information, visit www.esurance.com.

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245 Avington - \$800,000
1011 Broadway - \$560,000
1511 Broadway - \$695,000
3268 Cape Cod Ct - \$570,000
1913 Everett St - \$490,000
125 Peach Bay - \$769,000
1623 High St - \$730,000
1104 Island - \$505,000
54 Kilkenny Pl - \$1,300,000
6 Kinkaid Ct - \$1,072,000
3 Mastick Ct - \$480,000
1127 Peach St - \$590,000
1043 Santa Clara A - \$838,000
1001 Santa Clara - \$880,000
1001 Shoreline 308 - \$575,000
950 Shorepoint - \$435,000
613 Willow C - \$400,000
1807 Wood St - \$662,000

ALBANY

417 Evelyn Av 205 - \$325,000
535 Jackson St A - \$570,000
945 Key Route Bl - \$920,000
1612 Sonoma Av - \$1,045,000
954 Talbot Av - \$810,000
941 Taylor St - \$590,000

BERKELEY

1424 10th St - \$544,000 *
2341 6th St - \$550,000
1201 Blake St - \$590,000
3109 College Av B - \$363,000
1292 Delaware St - \$700,000
1412 Derby St - \$610,000
2905 Ellis St - \$585,000
79 Florida Av - \$958,000
1118 Francisco St - \$790,000
1374 Francisco St - \$705,000
61 Panoramic Wy - \$767,500
1180 Park Hills - \$705,000
1312 Poe St - \$550,000
632 The Alameda - \$950,000
1919 Virginia St - \$770,000

EL CERRITO

6125 Barrett Av - \$710,000
2709 Del Monte Av - \$855,000
2721 Del Monte Av - \$710,000
1609 Everett St - \$640,000
6811 Fairmount Av - \$430,000
518 Kearney St - \$450,000
1334 Liberty St - \$550,000
1326 Norvell St - \$605,000
542 Norvell St - \$600,000
615 Pomona Av - \$490,000
1126 Shevlin - \$730,000
806 Vista Heights - \$511,000

EL SOBRANTE

4080 Lambert - \$430,000
630 Lois Ln - \$670,000
600 Rincon - \$475,000

3430 SP Dam 30 - \$345,000
4030 Wesley Wy - \$370,000

EMERYVILLE

1052 45th St - \$917,000
142 City Limits Cr - \$606,000
6 Commodore C336 - \$495,000
1510 Park Av 302 - \$420,000

KENSINGTON

259 Colusa Av - \$611,000
101 Kingston - \$790,000
318 Vassar Av - \$827,000

OAKLAND

2000 101st Av - \$340,000
1342 108th Av - \$510,000
1427 10th St - \$475,000
1431 10th St - \$585,000
1470 13th St - \$595,000
1627 16th St - \$580,000
1600 18th Av - \$750,000
2725 26th Av - \$550,000
662 26th St - \$400,000
202 29th St - \$802,500
235 30th St - \$679,000
696 32nd St - \$525,000
2411 34th Av - \$455,000
1501 37th Av B2 - \$395,000
1501 37th Av C1 - \$477,500
1501 37th Av C3 - \$399,000
1631 37th Av - \$520,000
2407 38th Av - \$460,000
3429 38th Av - \$503,000
274 38th St - \$875,000
1510 40th Av - \$425,000
2194 42nd Av - \$390,000
858 44th St - \$575,000
324 45th St A - \$628,500
759 47th St - \$225,000
1926 57th Av - \$403,000
657 57th St - \$650,000
1275 61st Av - \$455,000
1293 61st Av - \$405,000
2316 63rd Av - \$450,000
390 63rd St - \$951,000
2488 65th Av - \$460,000
2406 67th Av - \$405,000
1605 74th Av - \$480,000
1669 81st Av - \$575,000
2007 81st Av - \$405,000
2501 83rd Av - \$394,000
2068 87th Av - \$578,000
2301 87th Av - \$490,000
2344 88th Av - \$405,000
1376 93rd Av - \$472,000
359 98th Av - \$405,000
1415 9th St - \$400,000
7830 Alder St - \$370,000
1096 Amato Av - \$1,170,000
809 Apple St - \$539,000
423 Ashton Av - \$390,000
6009 Auburn Av - \$899,000
9403 B St - \$455,000
6756 Banning - \$776,000

100 Bayo Vista Av - \$848,000
4505 Bond St - \$300,000
6460 Brann St - \$440,000
10733 Breed Av - \$450,000
5340 B'way Tr 403 - \$575,000
5277 B'way Tr - \$893,000
5463 Broadway - \$725,000
3036 Brook St - \$740,000
3525 Calafia Av - \$600,000
1825 Carter St - \$804,000
4841 Congress Av - \$510,000
3106 Coolidge Av - \$520,000
4125 Culver St - \$542,500
4779 Daisy St - \$500,000
8 Dorothy Pl - \$1,250,000
19 Downey Pl - \$1,400,000
2248 E. 17th St - \$500,000
1722 E. 21st St - \$480,000
1801 E. 21st St - \$460,000
2372 E. 21st St - \$724,000
1682 E. 32nd St - \$625,000
1325 E. 33rd St - \$440,000
1751 E. 38th St - \$645,000
2807 Eastman Av - \$485,000
9860 Elmar Av - \$645,000
320 Elwood Av - \$569,000
32 Entrada Av - \$785,000
77 Fairmount 305 - \$286,000
2027 Filbert St - \$417,500
5347 Fleming Av - \$510,000
5830 Fleming Av - \$615,000
5543 Fremont St - \$745,500
7879 Garfield Av - \$365,000
2901 Glascock St - \$524,000
10507 Graffian St - \$460,000
1838 Grand View - \$1,163,000
2512 Grande Vista - \$560,000
2755 Grande Vista - \$228,000
472 Gravatt - \$1,365,000
2445 Havenscourt Bl - \$599,000
2621 Hickory St - \$529,000
2138 High St - \$550,000
2141 High St - \$370,000
2445 Highland Av - \$518,000
7974 Hillmont - \$489,000
3065 Kansas St A - \$955,000
10210 Longfellow Av - \$545,000
361 MacArthur Bl - \$795,000
2323 Magnolia St 7 - \$415,000
3605 Majestic Av - \$450,000
4170 Manila Av - \$610,000
6001 Margarido - \$2,150,000
3137 Market St - \$400,000
3300 MLK Jr Wy - \$799,000
1916 Melvin - \$976,000
4143 Mera St - \$315,000
6115 Merriewood - \$825,000
6167 Monadnock Wy - \$485,000
6200 Monadnock Wy - \$355,000
2922 Morgan Av - \$441,000
2924 Morgan Av - \$415,000
2938 Morgan Av - \$450,000
706 Nevada St - \$450,000
9329 Olive St - \$375,000
232 Pershing - \$1,100,000
6114 Pinewood - \$975,000
2755 Ritchie St - \$445,000
8909 Sage - \$745,000

4033 Sequoyah - \$701,000
211 Sequoyah View - \$890,000
9110 Skyline Bl - \$819,000
215 Taurus Av - \$664,000
5825 Thornhill 8 - \$430,000
1947 Tiffin - \$662,000
253 Tunis - \$381,000
3312 Vale Av - \$500,000
330 Vernon St 308 - \$410,000
6280 Viewcrest - \$1,035,000
4089 Waterhouse - \$619,000
7006 Weld St - \$405,000
5 West E'cadero 122 - \$310,000
3656 West St - \$535,000
6517 Whitney St - \$510,000
8073 Winthrop St - \$580,000
911 Wood St - \$499,000
3401 Wyman St - \$490,000
811 York St 314 - \$342,000

PIEDMONT

561 Blair Av - \$1,900,000
204 Pala Av - \$1,303,000
57 Park Wy - \$1,555,000

RICHMOND

647 17th St - \$660,000
460 21st St - \$435,000
617 21st St - \$400,000
788 22nd St - \$495,000
48 29th St - \$410,000
564 2nd St - \$315,000
642 2nd St - \$340,000
1536 6th St - \$265,000
792 6th St - \$300,000
2723 Barnard St - \$500,000
4211 Barrett Av - \$430,000
21 Bayside Ct - \$298,000
215 Bayside Ct - \$368,500
117 Bishop Av - \$866,500
3017 Center Av - \$390,000
239 Chanslor Av - \$365,000
4051 Coleman Cr - \$790,000
5410 Creely Av - \$475,000
138 Crest Av - \$975,000
403 Dimm St - \$671,000
3121 Eria Wy - \$480,000
1908 Francisco Wy - \$550,000
537 Golden Gate Av - \$935,000
2701 Grant Av - \$450,000
3250 Highpointe Ct - \$665,000
3133 Lake View Ct - \$635,000
161 Marina Lakes - \$313,500
163 Marina Lakes - \$425,000
214 Marina Lakes - \$534,500
50 Marina Lakes - \$387,000
12 Mary Ln - \$465,000
3071 May - \$551,000
6171 McBryde Av - \$420,000
5432 Modoc Av - \$427,000
4410 Ohio Av - \$305,000
5920 Orchard Av - \$480,000
3517 Park Ridge - \$1,000,000
2218 Potrero Av - \$463,000
6081 Ralston Av - \$549,000
1109 Roosevelt Av - \$493,000

1120 Roosevelt Av - \$475,000
5370 Saddleback Ct - \$775,000
5917 San Jose Av - \$545,000
12 Seagull - \$649,000
320 South 25th St - \$500,000
816 Virginia Av - \$330,000
3735 Waller Av - \$375,000

SAN LEANDRO

1705 163rd Av - \$400,000
1666 164th Av - \$381,000
14675 Aurelia Wy - \$600,000
1365 Avon Av - \$555,000
1265 Burkhardt Av - \$600,000
16219 Calypso Ct - \$695,000
1160 Camellia Ct - \$749,000
1350 Devonshire Av - \$538,000
2475 Dundee Ct - \$565,000
14101 E. 14th St 104 - \$417,000
14101 E. 14th St 207 - \$391,500
15106 Edgemoor St - \$580,000
2331 Falway - \$420,000
15009 Fleming St - \$530,000
2283 Harborview - \$855,000
15483 Heron - \$670,000
1237 Lucille St - \$510,000
1941 Manchester - \$644,000
539 McKinley Ct - \$695,000
15054 Norton St - \$585,000
1345 Parker St - \$660,000
1513 Pearson Av - \$580,000
1570 Plaza - \$378,000
2271 Prosperity Wy - \$682,000
1654 Regent - \$752,500
16547 Russell Ct - \$620,000
14936 Saturn - \$655,000
14945 Saturn - \$490,000
2245 Strang Av - \$550,000
2134 Thomas Av - \$650,000
1410 Thrush Av 6 - \$350,000
530 Warden Av - \$450,000
15335 Washington 207 - \$350,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 18
LOWEST PRICE: \$400,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,300,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$662,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$686,167

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$325,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,045,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$810,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$710,000

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 15
LOWEST PRICE: \$363,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$958,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$700,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$675,833

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 12
LOWEST PRICE: \$400,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$855,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$640,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$640,000

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$475,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,045,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$810,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$810,000

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$420,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$790,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$611,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$611,000

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$827,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$790,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$790,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$790,000

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 137
LOWEST PRICE: \$228,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$2,150,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$621,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$621,000

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$1,303,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,900,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$1,555,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,555,000

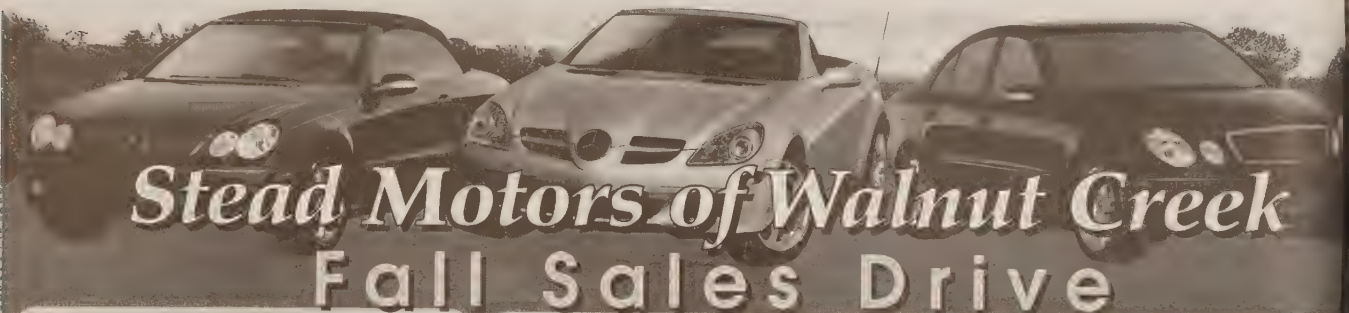
RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 47
LOWEST PRICE: \$387,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,000,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$475,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$520,000

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 33
LOWEST PRICE: \$350,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$855,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$580,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$580,000

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2006 C230 Sports Sedan

2006 ML350 All New!

2006 E350

\$31,988
2 to choose from
#827450, #827386

\$43,988
5 to choose from

\$498
1 in stock at these terms
Available only to qualified customers through Mercedes-Benz Credit where applicable to advertised lease through 10/31/05. 39 Month Closed-End Lease based on a gross capitalized cost of \$50,800. Excludes title, taxes, registration, license fees. Total monthly payments = \$14,584.59. Cash due at signing includes \$4671.67 capitalized cost reduction. \$695 acquisition fee and first month's lease payment of \$540.17. \$0 Security Deposit. At lease end, lessee pays for excess wear and tear plus 25 cents per mile over 22,500 miles. Purchase option at lease end for \$89,739.45. Subject to credit approval & where applicable to advertised lease. 1 Available at these terms. #A93785. Expires 11/06/05.

2006 R-Class

\$598 Per Mo. + Tax Lease
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Full Time 4 Wheel Drive Seating for 6

Available only to qualified customers through Mercedes-Benz Credit where applicable to advertised lease through 10/31/05. 39 Month Closed-End Lease based on a gross capitalized cost of \$55,800. Excludes title, taxes, registration, license fees. Total monthly payments = \$25,252.50. Cash due at signing includes \$3439 capitalized cost reduction, \$695 acquisition fee and first month's lease payment of \$647.50. \$0 Security Deposit. At lease end, lessee pays for excess wear and tear plus 25 cents per mile over 32,520 miles. Purchase option at lease end for \$37,050.45. Subject to credit approval & where applicable to advertised lease. 5 Available at these terms. Expires 11/06/05.

2006 S350

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SPARE PARTS

Sportswagon: The Volvo is offered in three versions: The base model V50 2.4i, the performance-oriented V50 T5 and the all-weather V50 T5 AWD. Changes for 2006 include a new, simplified engine and option structure, redesigned alloy wheels and improved suspension. The Volvo V50 is a choice of spirited 5-cylinder engines: a 2.4-liter producing 185 horsepower and a 2.5-liter 218-horsepower light-pressure turbocharged engine. The T5 Dynamic

Trim Package enhances the aggressive lines of the sportswagon through specially designed spoilers on the front, sides and rear, along with 17-inch wheels.

Minivan recall: Nissan Motor Co. is recalling about 118,000 Quest minivans from the 2004-2006 model years. Someone adjusting the second-row seat could have his or her finger pinched when moving the metal mechanism. The automaker said there have been 10 reported injuries,

causing cuts and scrapes. The recalls are expected to begin in December. Dealers will fix the problem at no expense to owners.

Settling the dust: Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire has agreed to pay \$240 million to Ford Motor Co. to settle claims related to the tire maker's 2000 recall of defective tires. The tire company and Ford reached a settlement that will help cover the costs of the automaker's 2001 tire-replacement program.



VOLVO V50 is offered in three versions: The base model V50 2.4i, the performance-oriented T5 and the all-weather V50 T5 AWD.

Tokyo Motor Show unveils the next new-car look

BY MICHELLE KREBS

MOTOR MATTERS
Concept cars that will soon appear in production models in the new year are among the highlights of the recent biennial Tokyo Motor Show. Nissan unveiled the much-anticipated concept of its upcoming GT-R cars that will make its way to U.S. after the Tokyo show in 2007. The only question is whether it will be a Nissan or Infiniti? Executives are only saying they haven't decided.

SHE'S FREEWHEELING

The GT-R Proto is "80 to 90 percent" of the production car, confirmed Shiro Nakamura, Nissan's senior vice president of design. Its dramatically sloping roofline and overall body profile are nearly identical to the real thing, he said. The details of the front end, with its single center air intake to help airflow and link it to past GT-R concepts, have yet to

be worked out, he added.

The concept has no interior and details were not provided about the super car's powertrain, though speculation in Japan has it being equipped with a twin-turbocharged, 3.7-liter V-6 that produces about 450 horsepower and drives all four wheels through a seven-speed sequential gearbox. Nissan officials would only say the same powertrain would be used worldwide and the GT-R would be

See FREEWHEELING, Page D8

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Flexcar launches carsharing service in San Francisco

BUSINESS WIRE
SAN FRANCISCO — Hybrid cars are good for the environment; with gas and mileage included, Flexcar is good for the wallet.

Flexcar has expanded its car-sharing service to San Francisco, becoming the first carsharing company to offer service throughout the state of California, along the West Coast and across the country. Seventy-five percent of its fleet in San Francisco will be environmentally friendly Honda Civic Hybrids.

Flexcar pioneered carsharing in the United States. Since 1998, more than 30,000 members in seven major metropolitan areas have enjoyed the freedom of having a car without the cost and hassles of ownership — including never having to pay for gas, mileage, parking and insurance. Communities are realizing the benefits of reduced congestion, air pollution and energy use, while increasing use of public transportation and contributing to sus-

tainable communities.

Flexcar members now have on-demand access to a fleet of low-emission vehicles stationed throughout the City. Members reserve the vehicles via the Internet or phone for \$9 an hour — a fee that includes gas, mileage, parking and insurance. The company is taking membership applications now and is offering incentives via its Web site at: www.flexcar.com/sanfrancisco/specials-launch.asp?rc=0.

Initially, vehicles will be clustered in the City's downtown Financial District and, over time, placed in numerous neighborhoods, including North Beach, Civic Center and Pacific Heights. Substantial program benefits and discounted pricing from \$7.20 per hour are being offered to business members, including free overnight hours and incentives for multi-city use. Because Flexcar operates nationally, individual and business members can use vehicles from Seattle to San Diego and in 37

other cities in six states from coast to coast — with more locations being added soon.

"With gas prices more than \$3 a gallon, downtown parking at \$25 a day and insurance rates off the charts, Flexcar's \$9-an-hour rate is a real bargain," said Steve Case, the co-founder of AOL and the majority owner of Flexcar. "What's more, especially in congested areas, car sharing is a responsible choice — and Flexcar's fleet of hybrids will help reduce pollution and fuel consumption," Case added.

Last month, Case's investment firm, Revolution Living LLC, was joined by Lee Iacocca, former Chairman/CEO of Chrysler. In buying a controlling interest in Flexcar, their investment is fueling Flexcar's nationwide expansion, starting with San Francisco. Flexcar seeks to have 20,000 vehicles available to members nationwide within five years.

"Car availability is critical to suc-

cessful carsharing. Our goal is to have a car available within a two-block walk of where our members are, starting with the downtown Financial District in San Francisco," said Lance Ayrault, Flexcar's president and CEO. "There's zero doubt that the Bay Area represents the biggest market opportunity for carsharing in the U.S., and we're excited to give residents and businesses another choice."

Among the many benefits of Flexcar's program are:

■ **Members don't pay for gas, mileage, insurance, parking:** Flexcar's hourly or discounted monthly usage charge includes gas, unlimited miles, insurance, and a prime parking place. Members don't pay a day-long rental rate when they only need a car for a few hours — they pay only for what they use. Flexcar's insurance coverage is the best available, and members get it for free.

■ **Business partners receive discounts for rentals:** Business

members can encourage employees to take public transportation into the City, while making cars available for meetings throughout the day. In addition, businesses get free overnight hours, making cars available to employees who stay late and then face limited availability from public transportation services.

■ **State/nationwide network:** Not only can Bay Area Flexcar members access Flexcar elsewhere in California, but also across the country, thanks to Flexcar's nationwide network of vehicles.

■ **A "green" choice:** Carsharing is proven to reduce congestion and auto emissions, making it an environmentally-sound choice. Flexcar goes the next step, by offering a fleet that consists largely of fuel-efficient hybrid vehicles — and then by planting trees to offset the minimal carbon emissions of that fleet through its partnership with American Forests.

■ **Convenient and hassle-free:** Unlike car rental companies with a handful of locations at often inconvenient, airport sites, Flexcar's vehicles are parked near

members' offices and there's no waiting in line to use a vehicle — reserve online, go to the car, use their personal card to unlock the car, then just drive away.

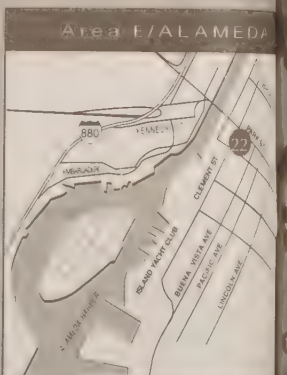
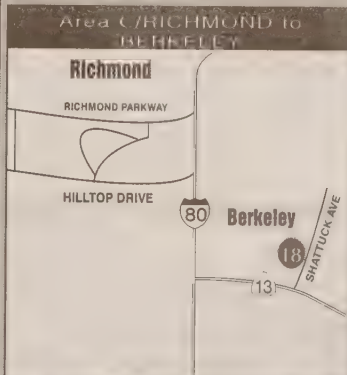
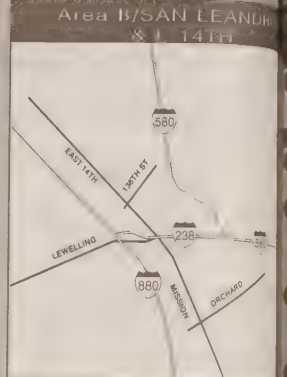
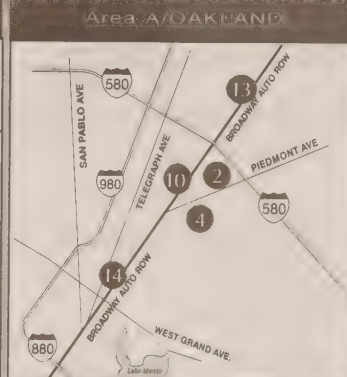
Since launching its carsharing industry in 1998, Flexcar has won numerous commendations for reducing congestion, air pollution and use, and increasing use of transit while contributing to sustainable communities. From Flexcar as well as other carsharing programs, cars off the road, reducing miles traveled and use of public transit. These indicators that roughly 10 percent of members have decided not to purchase a car because of the program removing thousands of cars and thousands of tons of emissions from circulation.

More information on San Francisco operation available at www.flexcar.com or calling 415-282-3539.

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This map illustrates the San Francisco Bay Area and its surrounding regions. Key features include:

- Major Highways:** Labeled with route numbers such as 80, 88, 90, 101, 108, 205, 280, 580, 680, 780, and 990.
- Cities and Towns:** Numerous locations are marked, including Napa, Vallejo, American Canyon, Stockton, Tracy, Newman, Los Banos, Petaluma, Novato, Sausalito, San Francisco, San Jose, San Diego, San Ramon, Mountain House, Livermore, Fremont, Hayward, Dublin, Pleasanton, San Leandro, Castro Valley, Alameda, Oakland, Moraga, Danville, Walnut Creek, Clayton, Pittsburg, Antioch, Concord, Pacheco, Pleasant Hill, Hercules, Pinole, Martinez, Benicia, Suisun City, Suisun Bay, Bay Point, Richmond, El Sobrante, Marina Bay, Orinda, Lafayette, and San Ramon.
- Geographical Features:** The map shows the San Francisco Bay, Suisun Bay, and various rivers and creeks.
- Inset Maps:**
 - Napa:** Shows the Napa Valley region with highways 78 and 29.
 - Vallejo:** Shows the Vallejo area with highways 101 and 37.
 - Stockton:** Shows the Stockton area with highways 99 and 205.
 - Sacramento Area:** Shows the Sacramento region with highways 80, 99, and 40.

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confronted with a vast array of real estate options make these homes worth seeing for yourself! In the surrounding area there are numerous locations for shopping, fine dining, as well as great schools and cultural venues. Access via all major freeways including 880 and 101 makes it easy to get to all the major work centers in the area. Numerous amenities include a clubhouse facility and 1.25 acre public park, as well as a pool and spa. Open daily 11-6 (408) 383-9457 villasatiny.com.

Siena di Saratoga
Priced from the upper \$600,000s. A collection of 77 sophisticated townhomes, Siena di Saratoga is a stunning new urban village located minutes from downtown San Jose. With floor plans ranging from 1,350 sq. ft. to 1,900 sq. ft. and 2 to 4 bedrooms with up to 3 baths, these residences feature formal and casual areas, wonderful slate-of-the-art kitchens,

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the distinguished community. The indoor location offers seclusion as well as easy access to prime business centers and award-winning schools. These elegant homes feature majestic two-story bay windows, starcases, fabulous gourmet kitchens, luxurious master bedroom suites, spacious sunlit family rooms, private dens, and lower level bonus rooms in numerous stunning floorplans from 4,200 to over 6,600 sq. ft. Two magnificent models Open Daily 11-6 (925) 743-1000.

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Copper Ridge Condominiums & Townhomes. Copper Ridge features one and two bedroom condominiums and townhomes in a gated community with a resort lifestyle and views of the valley. Each home includes a private garage. Pools, spa, fitness center, tennis courts and a clubhouse are included. Two championship golf courses are nearby. Represented by

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City Park at Sunnyvale
Priced from the upper \$600,000s. A collection of 130 townhomes. City Park at Sunnyvale is situated in the heart of Silicon Valley. City Park offers every-day conveniences, including a shopping center, a fitness center, a swimming pool and recreational activities. Call Tracy Hays 101, Hwy 280, and Hwy 85, Novato

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The Villages II and The Cottages II at Redbridge
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Freewheeling

FROM PAGE D5

a showcase of technologies.

Unlike its predecessors, the next-generation GT-R will be sold globally, first in Japan as a Nissan and then in Europe and the U.S.

Toyota's luxury division, Lexus, unveiled a close-to-production concept of the 2007 LS 460, the replacement for its current flagship sedan, the LS 430. The concept, designated the LF-Sh, was shown equipped with all-wheel drive and a hybrid powertrain. The 2007 model is expected to have a new 4.6-liter V8, paired with an eight-speed automatic transmission, when it goes into production; thus the LS 460 name. Lexus also showed the GS 450h, a hybrid version of its recently redesigned GS sedans that will go on sale in the U.S.

The LF-Sh concept is longer and wider than the current LS 430 and borrows cues from recent Lexus concepts and the newly introduced IS and GS production models that show a more stylish design direction for the luxury marque. Like the GT-R Proto, the Lexus concept has no interior. Details on the powertrain were limited. The production version is expected to be unveiled at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit in January, though Lexus has not confirmed its appearance.

Honda showed a stunning concept, called the Sports 4, that supposedly hints at the direction of the next-generation Accord, coming to market in the next couple of years. The concept features sportier styling than the current Accord. The concept is equipped with the SH-AWD technology, introduced last year on

the Acura flagship RL, suggesting the next Accord will have more spirited driving performance to match its look.

German automaker Audi used the Tokyo show as its stage to unveil a new concept called the Shooting Brake that hints at the direction of its next-generation TT coupe/convertible. The concept suggests Audi is trying a new interpretation of its recently adopted large single-frame grille. The concept is powered by what is reported to be the next-generation engine for the TT — a 250-horsepower, 3.2-liter six-cylinder engine and has Audi's quattro all-wheel drive to deliver 0-to-60 mph acceleration in just 6 seconds. Other technologies on the car include an adaptive damping system, a new navigation system and LED headlights. Audi calls the Shooting Brake a study car.

Mitsubishi unveiled its next-generation Outlander sport utility, a critically important model for the floundering automaker. The Outlander is midsize, seating five to seven passengers depending on the version, and features a new powertrain, a 2.4-liter with a Sport Mode six-speed CVT. The Outlander arrives in the U.S. next year as a 2007 model.

Mitsubishi also took the wraps off the Concept X, which heavily hints at the 2007 Lancer Evo X that arrives in the U.S. next year, another cult car among the young import tuner market. Designed in Europe, the concept is equipped with a turbocharged 2.0-liter, four-cylinder engine paired with a six-speed sequential auto-manual transmission. It also showcases what Mitsubishi calls Super All Wheel Control, which consists of four-wheel drive, active brake control, active steering and a roll-control suspension.

To reach Michelle Krebs, send e-mail to michkrebs@aol.com.



THE LEXUS LF-SH CONCEPT, top, is longer and wider than the current LS 430 and borrows cues from recent Lexus concepts the newly introduced IS and GS production models. The Nissan GT-R Proto, bottom, is "80 to 90 percent" of the production car; dramatically sloping roofline and overall body profile are nearly identical to the real thing.

Water puts 'wow' into the Pontiac Solstice

BY CHERYL JENSEN
MOTOR MATTERS

Odd as it seems, General Motors used water to give its new Pontiac Solstice sports car more flair.

When the production version of the Pontiac Solstice, its first roadster, was shown at the 2004 auto show in Detroit, people were surprised that it was such a dead ringer for the concept car first shown in 2002.

How were they able to reproduce those voluptuous body panels? After all, it isn't unusual to be disappointed when the styling of a concept car can't be duplicated when it comes time to stamp out body panels in a manufacturing plant.

The answer is sheet metal hydroforming, which was used to produce almost all of the curvaceous body panels on the Solstice. This is the first time General Motors has used the process to form exterior body panels in a production vehicle, saying it enables the transfer of original concept vehicle design without compromises to a mass-produced vehicle.

In traditional stamping, a flat piece of steel is inserted between an upper (positive) die and a lower (negative) die. As the two come together, the sheet metal is stretched or bent into the desired shape, which could be a door panel, a roof or a hood.

"As you are forming the part, you are stretching the metal into the shape that you want it to be," said Joseph Kaczmarek, chief manufacturing engineer for chassis and components at General Motors. It is similar to what happens when someone takes a piece of aluminum foil and forms it to cover a pot.

But there are drawbacks to conventional stamping, Kaczmarek explained. Every type of steel has different properties that affect how easy it is to stretch or bend to the desired shape.

"If you think about your aluminum foil, if you pull it too tightly it rips very easily," he said. The same thing can happen if you don't use the right rules during the conventional stamping process.

All the automotive manufacturer,

DOWN THE ROAD

ers, including General Motors, have certain rules in regard to conventional stamping about how far you can stretch it, how far you can pull it, how far you can bend it before you are going to weaken the panel so that it no longer performs the way you want it to or until it actually tears."

So when designers style a vehicle they have to do it within those boundaries. That often leads to disappointment. And that is one of the reasons GM decided to use hydroforming — to deliver on the visual promise of the Solstice concept car.

"Hydroforming allows us to expand those parameters to get the 'Wow' into vehicles," he said.

The concept of hydroforming is that it uses fluid, which is water in the case of the Solstice, to help make the part. "The technology is not new," Kaczmarek said, "it's just that it is being applied differently." In conventional stamping you have two dies coming together, Kaczmarek said. In hydroforming you also have two dies coming together, but water makes the difference.

"The properties of the water allow pressure to be equalized on the part. Because of that, the metal stretches and forms differently than if it were in a standard die. The water itself moves and forms the metal," he said.

"It allows us to stretch it more — stretch it differently so it doesn't tear — pull it more, form it in different shapes than you could if it was running dry," he said.

Because pressure is spread more evenly onto the blank sheet metal, hydroforming offers the additional advantages of excellent finish quality, uniform panel thickness and precise dimensional accuracy when compared with conventional draw stamping. More uniform panel thickness improves the chances for successful forming.

In fact, many of the body panels on the Solstice could not have been formed by conventional stamping methods.



SHEET METAL HYDROFORMING was used to produce almost all of the curvaceous body panels on the Solstice.

"They would tear first," Kaczmarek said.

The clamshell hood on the Solstice that opens from the front instead of at the base of the windshield is probably the best example

of how hydroforming helped the styling of the concept car translate to the production version.

"The shape and curve of that hood, especially at the front end the way it curves down, wraps around

the headlights and down to the wheel wells as all one panel, is what gives the Solstice its unique look," Kaczmarek said.

"If we were trying to do that conventionally," he said, "we probably

would have had to come up with a lot of compromises."

But by using hydroforming, they were able to build the hood and the rest of the Solstice — as the designer originally styled

Gas-friendly cars compete with hybrids

BY G. CHAMBERS WILLIAMS III
SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS

New-car buyers have been turning away from gas-guzzling vehicles and looking for vehicles that don't wipe out the grocery money when it comes time to fill the tank.

There is huge interest in the gasoline-electric hybrid vehicles, but many consumers are finding hybrids are either priced way above their budgets or are in such short supply that finding one can be a challenge.

But there are cars on the market that cost a lot less than even the cheapest hybrids yet get fuel economy that is double that of most SUVs and, in some cases, is close to what some hybrids achieve.

Most operate on gasoline, but Volkswagen even has a diesel with fuel economy about the same as

the Toyota Prius and Honda Civic hybrids.

It's surprising that these small cars are quite roomy inside, thanks to their high profiles and their designers' creative use of available interior space. Many are available in hatchback/wagon form.

Chevrolet Aveo: The Aveo, based on a vehicle designed by South Korea's Daewoo, joined the Chevy lineup two years ago as the least expensive entry-level model. Fuel economy is 28 miles per gallon city/34 highway with automatic transmission, or 27 city/35 highway with manual. Base prices range from \$10,000 to \$13,500.

Kia Rio/Rio5: Kia's subcompact Rio sedan and Rio5 wagon enter their second generation for 2006. The EPA estimates fuel economy of

32 mpg in the city and 35 mpg on the highway for the five-speed manual-transmission versions, and 29 city/38 highway with the four-speed automatic. Prices begin at \$11,110, which includes such new standard features as six air bags, including dual front and front seat-mounted side air bags, and full-length side-curtain air bags.

Scion xA: The xA was one of the first two vehicles Toyota released under the Scion name when the youth sub-brand made its debut in 2004, and the car continues in the expanded lineup for 2006. It is built on the chassis of the Toyota Echo subcompact, which has been discontinued for 2006. The car is economical to buy and operate, thanks to a starting price under \$13,500 and EPA fuel-economy ratings of 32 mpg

city/37 highway with manual transmission or 31/38 for automatics.

Scion xB: For those who need an SUV but with great fuel economy and a decent price, the Scion xB is a good choice. It looks a lot like the Honda Element, which came out two years ago about the same time the xB was being introduced only in California. But the xB is much cooler-looking and a nicer vehicle overall. The xB is EPA-rated at 30 mpg city and 34 highway. And you can buy one starting at about \$15,000, with a fully loaded model running under \$19,000.

Suzuki Aerio/Aerio SX: Suzuki introduced an all-new line of small cars three years ago, called Aerio, which include a subcompact sedan and a hatchback/wagon version. Starting list price of the Aerio sedan is about \$14,000. And the Aerio SX wagon carries a base price of under \$15,000. Fuel economy ratings are 24 mpg city/29 highway for the auto-

matic and 25 city/33 for the manual.

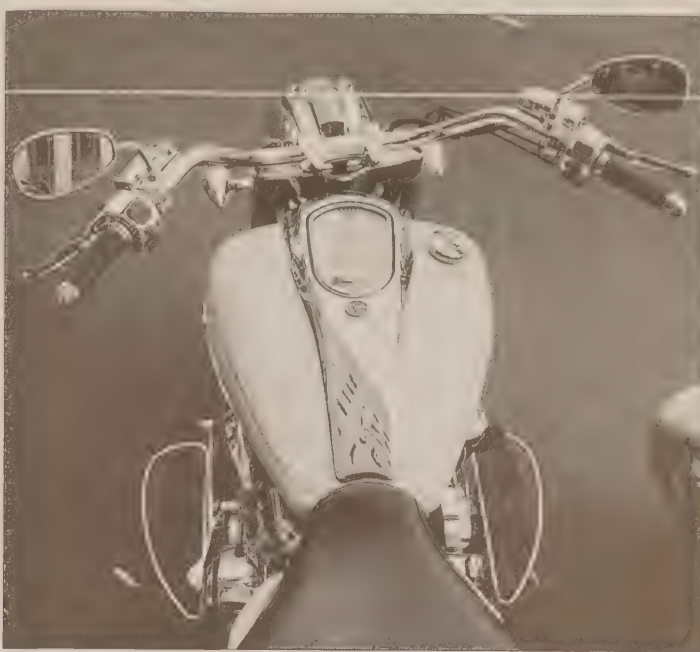
Honda Civic: The eighth generation of America's best-selling compact car — the Honda Civic — has arrived. And you can forget the more expensive hybrid version, which starts at just over \$20,000. The gasoline-only models begin at \$14,910 for the base DX coupe model and \$15,110 for the sedan. EPA ratings with the new 1.8-liter, 140-horsepower four-cylinder gas engine are a thrifty 30 mpg in the city and 40 on the highway with the automatic and 30 city/38 highway with the manual.

Volkswagen Golf: The entry-level Volkswagen was completely redesigned two years ago for the European market, but that newest generation is just now making its way to North America. Built along with the Jetta and the New Beetle at VW's plant in Puebla, Mexico, these cars are three- and five-door hatchbacks that have the same chassis as the Jetta and New Beetle.

They also come with the basic engines. The most fuel-efficient is the 100-horsepower diesel with EPA ratings of 42 city/48 highway. But even the 2.5-liter inline four-cylinder engine, with 150 horsepower, gets fuel economy into the upper-30s. The diesel also is available in the New Beetle for 2006.

These are fun cars to drive and are quite popular among young consumers. Prices range from \$16,000 to about \$22,000.

Toyota Corolla: With a list price under \$14,000, the Corolla is highly competitive against leading vehicles in this class — as the Honda Civic, Nissan Sentra and Ford Focus — but also offers something Toyota has been known for: value. The Corolla is longer, wider, taller and more efficient, with EPA fuel economy estimates as high as 32 mpg city/40 highway with manual gearbox.



MOTOR MATTERS

Roadliner is a turnkey factory bike with a custom, 1920's era, Art-Deco look about it. The big bike comes in three trim levels: Roadliner, Roadliner Midnight and the top-of-the-line Roadliner S.

Star launches new Roadliner: Other cruisers beware

BY ARV VOSS

MOTOR MATTERS

motorcycles, a division of Harley-Davidson, has just launched an all-new line of heavy metric cruisers under the moniker "Roadliner." The new bike comes in three trim levels: Roadliner, Roadliner Midnight and the top-of-the-line Roadliner S. Soon to follow will be the Roadliner, which will essentially be a fully equipped "bagger" version of the Roadliner series.

The Roadliner is a turnkey factory bike with a truly custom, Art-Deco look about it. The front and running lamps are top shaped units both front and rear, unlike the tail lamps of the Cadillac Eldorado. The front and tail light is executed in a rounded shape, with a clear lens and red LED lights behind. The really no prominent badging. For that matter, the Roadliner at all, it's difficult at best. It appears subtly stamped

2-WHEELING TODAY

on the lower, right side engine case, and there is an easily removable, small Yamaha decal on the rear fender behind the passenger pillion. Star logos are positioned sparingly and very discreetly, adding to the cruiser's custom aura.

Power for the Roadliner models comes from a 113 cubic-inch (1854 cc) air-cooled, pushrod OHV, and 48-degree V-Twin engine with twin-bore fuel injection and throttle position sensor. The motor makes 101 horsepower at the crankshaft (91 horsepower at the rear wheel) and 124 pounds-foot of torque at the crank (yielding 117 pounds-foot to the road). The big motor mates to an all-new, smooth sequential 5-speed manual transmission, with final power delivery being belt drive. The engine mounts in an all-new aluminum frame that weighs a mere

37 pounds. The aluminum rear swing arm with just eight components realizes more weight savings. Exhaust exits via a large chrome, two-into-one right side setup, with an authoritative and pleasing, but not offensive, rumble.

Total dry weight for the Roadliner S is 705 pounds, but the low center of gravity and excellent balance result in the bike seeming much lighter, making for effortless transitions from turn to turn. Assisting in delivering a comfortable ride quality are 46 mm dual forks with 5.3-inch travel up front and a single-shock Link-Type rear suspension with 4.3-inch travel.

The Roadliner S rides on Bridgestone radial tires — 130/70-18 in the front and 190/60-17 aft. Wheels are burnished 12-spoke hollow cast alloy. Bringing the big cruiser to a halt are 298 mm dual front discs assisted by a 320mm single disc at the rear. Fuel capacity is 4.5 gallons, including the reserve.

The Star Roadliner press launch was staged out of Portland, Ore., with the ride running along the spectacular Columbia River Gorge, over the beautifully scenic Mt. Hood Highway and back to Portland. More than 200 miles were covered on the breathtaking and enjoyable ride.

All the test bikes were Roadliner S models, with one accessorized bike along for photography, and one Roadliner Midnight. A base Roadliner was on display for the presentation. The base model is finished in Black Cherry with satin trim features and painted wheels. The Roadliner Midnight is, as one would expect, a blacked-out version — Raven in color, with minimal chrome, while the Roadliner S is tricked out with lots of chrome parts and accessories.

The S version comes finished in a two-tone Charcoal and Bronze or monochrome Pearl White. My ride was done in Pearl White and came with a base price of \$13,880 and

a final sticker total of \$15,500.

The Roadliner S comes without windshield or bags (which are available optionally), but is equipped with a removable (for that preferred solo look) passenger pillion and pegs. There are large full floorboards for the rider, with a rocker shifter, whose rear arm is a removable, metal spoon or blade affair that is better taken off.

Summary

Essentially, the new Star Roadliner S is a work of art that isn't priceless. In fact, it is very reasonably priced considering the content and fit and finish. The Roadliner S will get you from point "A" to point "B" in high style, leaving many observers with the impression that it is a full custom motorcycle, rather than a showroom stock cruiser.

The Roadliner S's big motor is capable of launching the heavy cruiser into a "wheelie" mode. I didn't try it, but it can be done.

Power delivery is both instantaneous and smooth, with a very broad and forgiving torque curve. Gear changes are also smooth, up or down. Braking is positive and effective when combining front and rear, or lightly touching only the front, while the rear alone seems to require more force than it should, which may be a good thing, avoiding lockup.

The road manners of the Roadliner S are very impressive. The bike's balance is incredibly stable, given its low-slung stance and weight mass positioning. It handles both slow and high-speed maneuvers with equal aplomb. "Leggy" riders will note that tight, slow speed exercises require moving one's inside turn leg out from the tank to clear the beach style bar — not a biggie, just takes some getting used to.

Bottom line: The Star Roadliner S is remarkably well suited to highway cruising or street styling.

The 911 Carrera's graceful lines, speed over the top

BY MARK PHELAN

DETROIT FREE PRESS

Porsche Carrera isn't a new event. The four-cylinder German sports car has been shining on wheels, a living legend to the great Ferdinand Porsche, father of the VW Beetle and the auto industry's forerunners.

The 911 Carrera was all-new for the 2005 model year, and there were minor changes for 2006. The 911 is the model in the line since 1963. The 911 debuted in 1965, replacing the previous model, which went on sale in 1966. The new 911 includes more powerful engine, an entirely new interior, a revised suspension and a new exterior that retains the classic round headlight of previous 911s.

The 911 Carrera coupe has a sticker price of \$88,010 and the Carrera S convertible that starts at \$99,100. Prices for the Carrera coupe start at \$80,000, with the more powerful Carrera S starting at \$81,400. Converter prices start at \$81,400, and the Carrera S model goes for \$91,400. Both models exclude destination

and some rattles and loose interior kept either from a four-year

old. The cars are gorgeous and fast. The 911's profile is such a design that it only becomes graceful and sinuous with every iteration of the car.

The current body style marks a return to the 911's signature round headlights, replacing the less attractive oval lamps on the previous model. Other exterior changes include a wider track — the distance from the outside of the left tire to the outside of the right tire — and a slimmer, more pronounced waist.

The car's length and height both increased by about 0.2 inch, but the wider stance makes the new 911 appear smaller than the old car.

The coupe and convertible are both available in regular and S models. The key difference is the engine. Both cars use Porsche's new watercooled flat-six engine, with the 3.6-liter base model producing 325 horsepower and the 3.8-liter S generating 355 horsepower. A new six-speed manual transmission is standard equipment. A six-speed automatic with Porsche's Tiptronic do-it-yourself shift feature is optional. Both engines rev smoothly and quickly to the redline, with plenty of torque available at all engine speeds.

The 911 accelerates to 60 mph in 4.8 seconds and reaches 100 mph in 11.0 seconds. The S hits those speeds in 4.6 and 10.7 seconds.

The sticky tires — 18-inch on the base, 19 on the S — adhere like flypaper and the brakes could stop a charging water buffalo. Antilock brakes and Porsche's sport-tuned stability control system are standard equipment. Ceramic disc



PORSCHE

THE 911 CARRERA was all-new for the 2005 model year, above.

brakes are optional, and probably only necessary for hard-core weekend racers.

A lot of Porsche owners do race their cars, though, and they'll love the optional Sport Chrono package, a fancy built-in stopwatch that counts laps and compares each lap to your best time. The package also resets the engine controls and adaptive suspension for the kind of driving that's acceptable only on the track.

The 911's new interior is the most comfortable and accommodating in the model's 40-year history.

It even includes two reasonably useful cup holders, and the seats strike an excellent balance between comfort and the snug fit necessary for quick maneuvers. The rear seats are for emergency use only.

Other interior upgrades include larger and more legible gauges, automatic climate control with bigger vents and rich, attractive materials

throughout.

Options include a DVD navigation system and a 13-speaker Bose surround sound stereo.

Unfortunately, the interiors of the two cars I tested each had a flaw. The driver's window rattled when the convertible top was down, and the coupe had a loose piece of plastic trim in the front-passenger footwell.

The cars are so intoxicating to drive that I forgot about those mis-

cues whenever I put the pedal down and launched into a long fast curve.

As delightful as they are to drive, though, neither car should have gotten out of the factory with such an annoying, easily remedied problem.

The 911 remains one of the world's great cars, and one I'd love to drive every day, but mistakes like that are the difference between three and four stars.

SPARE PARTS

which hit: The M-Class has been out of the crash-test program for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with flying colors, because of the first sport utility vehicle to be awarded the maximum five-star rating for both the front and side crashes in the U.S. After earning five stars in the front and side crash, the M-Class now occupies a leading position in the SUV segment. The new car assessment program subjects vehicles to a crash at 36 mph.

which vary: Rising fuel prices

have caused drivers to sacrifice horsepower to gain fuel-efficiency. As gasoline prices have hit \$3 a gallon in many parts of the country, there appears to be a shift in consumer taste toward smaller engines and a rise in concern about fuel economy. The demand is going to four cylinders. Whether these preliminary signs that consumers are prepared to accept less power mark a temporary or permanent shift in sentiment remains to be seen. Source: *The Wall Street Journal*

Hybrids: A future in which cars operate without using petroleum-

based fuels, run hundreds of miles before refueling and emit only water may be closer than we think. Consumers are showing more interest in hybrid vehicles, which run on a combination of gas and electricity. The long-term solution to the country's dependence on petroleum is making vehicles powered by hydrogen, which can be produced from a variety of sources. But some analysts think that fuel-cell vehicles becoming a mainstream part of the automotive industry is still a long way down the road. Source: *The Kansas City Star*.



MOTOR MATTERS

AFTER EARNING FIVE STARS in both the frontal and the side crash test, the new M-Class now occupies a leading position in the SUV segment.

Where is your dream home?

Real Estate & Home

Advertising supplement to The Alameda Journal

Friday, September 14, 2001

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B7]
Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B8]

Now is the time to prepare for the inevitable 'Big One'

A previous San Francisco earthquake has caused significant damage to property and people in the city. The 1906 earthquake, which killed about 3,000 people and destroyed much of the city, is a reminder of the potential for future disasters. Paul Brink, a local real estate expert, says that while the odds of another major earthquake are low, the potential for damage is high. He advises homeowners to take steps to reinforce their homes, such as installing earthquake-resistant anchors and bracing. Brink also notes that many homes in the city are built on unstable ground, which increases the risk of damage. He suggests that homeowners consider seismic retrofits, which can significantly reduce the risk of structural failure. Brink emphasizes that while the cost of these measures may be high, the potential savings in property damage and loss of life are much greater. He concludes by stating that it is better to be prepared than to be caught off guard.



ROSEMARY McNALLY

Alameda. They are concerned about preserving the historic and architectural integrity of the city. McNally, a local real estate expert, says that while the odds of another major earthquake are low, the potential for damage is high. She advises homeowners to take steps to reinforce their homes, such as installing earthquake-resistant anchors and bracing. McNally also notes that many homes in the city are built on unstable ground, which increases the risk of damage. She suggests that homeowners consider seismic retrofits, which can significantly reduce the risk of structural failure. McNally emphasizes that while the cost of these measures may be high, the potential savings in property damage and loss of life are much greater. She concludes by stating that it is better to be prepared than to be caught off guard.

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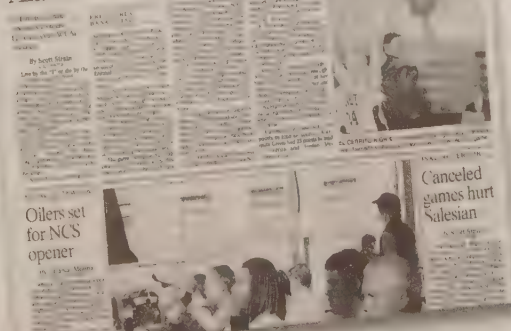
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is recruiting:
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-LVN-FT-Night Shift
-Apply in person or
contact Monica at 925-
4367 Concord Bld. Con-
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ry. Computer
people skills. Send re-
sume to 925-427-3000

OFFICE BUILDING MGR
Hands-on leasing, ten-
ant relations, TI super-
vision, 3-yr. comm.
mgmt. exp. req. Three
Bay Area bldgs.
Resume & salary req.
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Fax 925-937-5029
Web ID CC1021595615

OFFICE Manager run
the office, assist the
owner. Quickbooks a
+ . \$20pm. \$45k-\$50k
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Web ID CC1021591846

OFFICE San Ramon
consulting co. seeks
experienced person for
C/O duties, gd. phone
manner. Word & Ex-
cel. Res to Jill Fax
777-8183 resumes to
johnbheatty@comcast.net

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end year round res.
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925-686-1522

PAINTERS Industrial
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ings for qualified per-
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B.A.T.C. card req.
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RPT or RPTA, 3 dks wk
Hilltop Richmond.
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Fax res 910-222-0083

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SRVC. TECH. \$4K possible
within 6mos. w/ fast
growing co. No exp.
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Must have truck or
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Hiring exp Plumbers
for new const res.
projects hiring for
res. 16-18cent/hr.
800-786-9797. EOE
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PLUMBER Exp. reg'd.
San Ramon. 2K w/
const. Fax 925-777-9502
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PLUMBER-Roto Rooter
\$40-60K/yr. No exp. nec.
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person. Mazoni, Inc.
Concord, CA 94520.
925-339-3100

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const. Fax 925-777-9502
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PLUMBER W.C. TECH
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exp. 40-60K/yr. 2K w/
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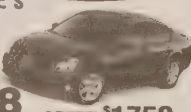
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Premium Sound & More



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XTERRA'S

Automatic

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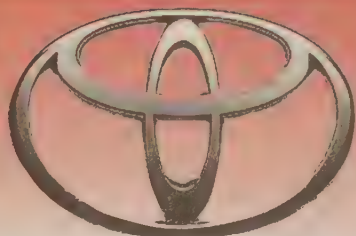
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*On approval of credit through NMAC Beacon 5.0 score 700 & above. No SS down to qualified buyers. Extra cost for optional equip. 3% APR available on 2005 Xterra, 2005 Pathfinder, 2005 Frontier and 2005 Murano. 2% APR available on 2005 Armada, 2005 Titan, 2005 Maxima, and 2005 Altima. 1% APR available on 2005 Sentra and 2005 Quest. Special APR's may not be combined with rebates. Rebates available are: \$3000 on 2005 Titan King Cabs, \$2500 on 2005 Armada, 2005 Quest (3.5SE and 3.5SL), 2005 Sentra, \$2250 on 2005 Titan Crew Cabs, \$2000 on 2005 Xterra, 2005 Quest (3.5 and 3.5SL), \$1500 on 2005 Frontier, 2005 Maxima, 2005 Altima, \$1250 on 2006 Maxima, 2006 Altima (excluding 2.5S), \$1000 on 2005 Murano, 2005 Frontier, \$800 on 2006 Altima 2.5S. Prices and discounts do not apply to leases. All purchases and leases on credit approval. APR=annual percentage rate. Vehicles are for illustrative purposes only. All vehicles are subject to prior sale. Ad expires 24 hours after publication.



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Hilltop



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Model #1802 2 At This
Price #595323, 612796

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Shopping Plus

Friday, November 4, 2005

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Hollywood glam, shimmer and shine the latest in home decor

CHARLYNE VARKONYI
SCHAUB

SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL
Turn on the red carpet. Turn on the lights. And say hello to "Hollywood Glam."

Back to the days when Tinseltown observed its name. Imagine Greta Garbo and Jean Harlow in luxurious, clinging gowns. Humphrey Bogart wearing a tuxedo jacket.

Translate this nostalgia for Hollywood glamour into home decor. Mirrored furniture, chaises longue, martini and Manhattan-themed decor with triple glass and elegant perfume bottles and furniture finishes touch of shimmer. Even porcelain fake fur throws.

But until recently, finding the elements for the look took the skill of an archaeologist. Style-conscious folks in Los Angeles and Manhattan were finding mirrored pieces in flea markets and junk shops and putting them in their bedrooms. In Florida, we had to dig for the look in the antiques shops or in the Miami Design District.

If you're a purist, you can still find exquisite examples at these upscale shops, but you can find a mirrored chest for as little as \$399 at the Bombay Company and a faux fur throw at Z Gallerie for \$59.95. In fact, walk into the Z Gallerie shops and you'll see the total accessorized look — from tufted fabric bed with fur throw, to chaise and mirrored furniture.

New York designer Larry Laslo includes glam influences in the furniture he designs and in his Manhattan apartment, which was featured in the February issue of Elle Decor.

His vision for the fall International Home Furnishings Market is pale, silvery and sophisticated. He painted his area in the Ferguson Copeland showroom with peach lacquered paint (pearl finish) contrasting with crisp white moldings and doorways. The rooms are decorated with mirrored and eggshell furniture, crystal chandeliers, lots of crystal and faux (never real) fur. The counterpoint is tweedy chenille upholstery.

We have seen pieces of the look, such as mirrored furniture, but this fall all the elements have come together. Hollywood Glam is finally accessible and affordable.

Inspiration comes from designs of the 1920s through the 1940s. Glam has some vestiges of Hollywood Regency, a style that originated in Southern California in 1930 that combines English, French Regency, Greek Revival and old Hollywood. There's also an echo of art deco.

"I think we all long for glamour," says Linda Lee, editor of Inside/Out magazine, a new design magazine based in Miami that used a Hollywood Glamour theme for the first issue.

But until recently, finding the elements for the look took the skill of an archaeologist. Style-conscious folks in Los Angeles and Manhattan were finding mirrored pieces in flea markets and junk shops and putting them in their bedrooms. In Florida, we had to dig for the look in the antiques shops or in the Miami Design District.

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"Shine is only good when coupled with contrast," he said in a telephone interview. "It's like too much of a good thing. Too much bling. Too much blonde hair. I am grounding the peaches and roses with chocolate and mocha upholstery. The pillows and other chairs coupled with it are a peach strain. It's very cosmetic without a gag factor."

Susane Ronal, owner of SusaneR Lifestyle Boutique in the Miami Design District, is another glam veteran. Ronal's "Re-edition Chairs" are reproductions based on design from the 1940s. Prices range from \$880-\$1,280 plus cost of the fabric.

"People are looking for something that lifts your soul," she said. "You can't quite get that with contemporary things. Hollywood Glam has curves that suggest a kind of softness and glamour. It's the American version of what the French call je ne sais quoi."

Inside/Out's Linda Lee also has her own vision.

"You could do a mirror, dresser, slipper chair and one beautiful perfume bottle or a vase with flowers," she said. "It's classic decorating paired down. The colors are beautiful and soft. The materials are velvet or something luxurious feeling. Hollywood Glam is about reclining. If not a chair and an ottoman, a chaise and a rolled pillow. A martini glass on a tray. It's the Baby Boomers giving up years of competition and relaxing a few years before they hit the grave. It's about making a beautiful place for yourself that's classic and elegant and we have been a long way from elegance for some time."

Why now? Robert Thompson, professor of pop culture at Syracuse University, said it takes a while for a nostalgic style to go from kitsch to desirable.

"In many ways, interior design styles are like wine," he said in a telephone interview. "You can't push the vintage. You have to let things age, and when they age they change character. If they ferment long enough, they ferment into something classy and timeless."

What helps fuel Hollywood Glam is the images we see in classic



LARRY LASLO'S NEW YORK APARTMENT shows how Hollywood Glam looks when all the elements are put together properly

black-and-white movies such as Casablanca. These movies produce a record of glamour that stays in circulation within the culture, he said.

Perhaps they'll stay in our homes as well. Here's looking at you, kid.

Mainstream glam

Glam is also hitting mainstream furniture stores. Several manufacturers showed the look at the International Home Furnishings Market in April and others brought more glam at the fall market in High Point, N.C.

At April market: Hooker Furniture, Amy Howard, Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams and Lillian August for Drexel Heritage all featured mirrored furniture. Robin Bruce showed an upholstered collection called Hollywood Glam. Cristina Ferrare's Sunset Boulevard Collection for Magnussen Home combined art deco styling with glam styles of the 1930s and 1940s. And Jonathan Adler showed his Hollywood Regency collection. Look for them in stores this fall.

At October market: New collections include Ralph Lauren's Modern Hollywood, Universal's Hollywood and American Drew's Sophisticate.

Reflection on earlier times

No one definition fits Hollywood Glam. It gets its inspiration from the 1920s through the 1940s and has many interpretations. Here are what design experts are saying:

"Hollywood Regency is a little overdone, a little too much of the Raj for my tastes. Real Hollywood Glamour is Art Deco or French Deco. It really is elegant. It brings to mind Greta Garbo. Hollywood Regency is more like Hedy Lamarr."

■ Linda Lee editor of Inside/Out magazine

"There's a real Art Deco influence overriding all of this. Hollywood Glam has a traditional feel, but it works in a traditional or modern decor. Mirrored pieces work in every color palette and they reflect the other colors in the room. But mirrored walls are too much. You want a reflected look without going overboard."

■ Kim Shaver, vice president marketing communications for Hooker Furniture

"Details are more important.

With a lack of distressing on the finish, the beautiful luster of the wood will show. The chaise may have metallic legs. The bar will have beautiful crystal. It will be cut and it will be etched and may even be colored. Leather will be smooth and subtle. It may be tinted pale blue or lavender. Rugs are plush and very thick. You gotta have fake fur on throws and pillows or maybe even on the edging of your duvet."

■ Michelle Lamb, trend guru and publisher of The Trend Curve

newsletter

"People are buying a piece of mirrored furniture just to have a little of it. The bigger picture is fabrics are returning to more of a luxurious look. It's a kind of refined glamour. I don't think it's out of control. People are still very budget conscious."

■ Mark Mayfield, editor-in-chief of House Beautiful

"What that time period captures is a perfect combination of classic and traditional meets clean and modern. It's a solution. Not everyone loves chrome legs with leather upholstery. Some don't like tufted backs and formal fringe. The appeal is timeless luxury, a cleaner and more modern aesthetic."

■ Andrea Banda director of merchandising for Robin Bruce

Where to buy

Now, that you have an idea what you want, here are some sources to find the basic ingredients:

■ American Drew: www.americandrew.com

■ Amy Howard: www.amyhowardcollection.com

■ Bombay Co.: Call 888-226-6229 or www.bombayco.com

■ Drexel Heritage: www.drexelheritage.com

■ Expo Design Centers: www.expo.com

■ Ferguson Copeland: www.fergusoncopeland.com

www.Thomasville.com

■ Universal Furniture International: www.universalfurniture.com

■ Z Gallerie: www.zgallerie.com

Add a shot of glam to your decorating style

Does glamour appeal to your inner decorator? Great, now do some research to learn what your glam signature will be.

One must-have research tool is "Modern Glamour: The Art of Unexpected Style" (ReganBooks, \$39.95) by Kelly Wearstler. Wearstler, a Los Angeles interior designer, made her reputation as a glam queen through her designs for the trend-setting Viceroy, Estrella and Avalon hotels. OK, it's not exactly refined Hollywood Glam. This is a model for those of you willing to take chances — big chances. Her use of oversized accessories and bright color is over the top. "Her style is gorgeous, provocative and ever so slightly deranged," Barney's creative director Simon Doonan says in her book. It's all that and more.

In contrast, Jamie Drake's "New American Glamour" (Bulfinch, \$45) is a study of sophisticated style with touches of what we see as Hollywood Glam. Drake, a New York designer who was named one of the Top American Designers by House Beautiful and New York magazine, has created residences for Madonna as well as New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg. His classic style relies on dimly lit rooms that showcase gold, satin and curves. New American Glamour "derives in part from the old MGM motto: 'Make it big! Do it right! Give it class!'" according to Drake. His fave details include faux animal skin rugs, metal meshes in copper and steel and patterned marble floors.

"Hollywood Style" (Rizzoli, \$50) by Diane Dorrans Saeaks is an overall look at Tinseltown design — from homes that look like movie sets to Italian villas and Hollywood Regency. It's not a bible of the glam style, but it gives a variety of interpretations. Of course, there's a section on Wearstler and her designs, which mine '30s and '40s movie sets with a dash of design icon Billy Haines. But there are also some great ideas from fashion designer Jennifer Nicholson

(Jack's daughter) and interior designer Michael Berman.

Speaking of Billy Haines, "Class Act William Haines: Legendary Hollywood Decorator" (Pointed Leaf Press, \$95), by Peter Schifando and Jean H. Mathison, is scheduled to be published Nov. 30. Haines is considered a major influence of this period. His iconic Brentwood is a low armless chair that has been used as a muse for current styles, including one by Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams.



TURN OF HOLLYWOOD GLAMOUR, reminiscent of the 1930's or 1940's design in Miami's Lifestyle Boutique.



SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL

MIRRORED FRAME, \$7. Target.

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■ Magnussen Home: Call 519-662-3040 or www.magnussen.com

■ Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams: www.mitchellgold.com

■ Ralph Lauren: www.ralphlaurenhome.com

■ Robin Bruce: Call 877-290-1502 or www.robinbruce.com

■ SusaneR Lifestyle Boutique: 305-573-8483 or www.susaner.com

■ Thomasville Furniture:

Homeowners go back in time to find just the right pieces to meet their needs

BY JOANNE CLEAVER

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

BURLINGTON, Wis. — Michael May's place is where old houses go to live.

Mellow gold antique beadboard from a long-gone old house tiles the kitchen ceiling in his 1870 Federal style house. A Prairie-style casement window, redeemed from a Waterford house, is now a multi-paned glass door on a kitchen cabinet. The side door is carved cedar, crafted with old-world precision and still inset with the original German scrolled and frosted glass. He pulled it, intact, from a garbage bin.

Until recently, only the environmentally correct and very thrifty used architectural elements salvaged from historic buildings about to be torn down.

Now, historic house parts are reclaiming the limelight that once made them glow, and they are being used as grace notes and focal points in brand-new houses and whole-house renovations of old buildings.

Designers and contractors who specialize in salvage are in demand as homeowners struggle to reconcile their inspiration with the nitty-gritty of fitting old things into new spaces. Meanwhile, the same excitement that is landing salvage front and center in a rush of books and magazines is also making it much tougher to find old materials.

Interest in salvage has been steadily growing for about five years, but "just within the last two years, builders are starting to look for stuff," says Ken Melcher.

He and wife Rebecca own The Harp Gallery, an antique and salvage store in Appleton, Wis., where tall French doors cluster around \$1,800 oak fireplace mantels.

Brian Coleman, a Seattle psychologist, salvage guru and author of "Extraordinary Interiors: Decorating with Architectural Salvage and Antiques" (Gibbs Smith, 2005, \$39.95) says that the rising interest in historic interiors has intrigued people who own houses of all ages with the possibilities of salvage.

"You can, certainly, find things cheaper that are salvaged, but that's not the only point. The point is to be creative, and use your imagination," he says.

One project from his book: a turn-of-the-century barbershop interior installed, nearly whole, as a master bath. The framed-in space and roughed-in plumbing was adjusted to accommodate the marble walls and commercial sinks.

"It's not perfect, but that's part of the fun, to see how you can use it," says Coleman.

People come upon a sparkling stained-glass window or long, nar-



KAREN SHERLOCK/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

ITALIANATE CORBELS and finials are used to decorate a bedroom of Michael May's home.

row, carved cabinet door and love it, and then aren't sure what to do next.

"A real common comment I hear is, 'I saw a stained-glass window I really liked, but I didn't buy it because it didn't fit,'" says Coleman. "I tell them, 'go buy it.' What you do is, you add a little around the edges, or take a little away. It's easy" to retrofit.

Easy if you know what you're doing.

Many homeowners and contractors have only a working knowledge of mass-produced, standardized building materials and measurements. Antique doors, windows and fixtures that might have been custom-built for the original space require a lot of reverse engineering to fit into a new space.

May, who runs M.J. May Building Restoration, says he's getting more and more calls from potential clients who want his help in sizing up a piece - literally and figuratively.

Clients come across a built-in bookcase or unusual window and need some expert help to figure out if it can be retrofitted into an existing room, or want to learn if May agrees that the piece is just the thing for a renovation or addition they've long been considering.

"It's a big design challenge to make an old mantel not just look like it was plopped in. You have to match the scale with the scale of the room" and other elements, like doors, says Allyson Nemec, principal of Milwaukee's Quorum Architects, which specializes in historic

building renovation.

She and other salvage-savvy designers and contractors agree that building with salvage involves adjustments all the way along in the design, clients' expectations, and the materials.

The best way to start is with a strong sense of how the finished space will look and what key architectural elements will anchor it.

With sketches in hand, homeowners often take years collecting salvaged parts that might be perfect - or might end up being someone else's lucky find.

With materials at the ready, the project can begin. Then the real fun begins.

Contractors sometimes find that old pieces have to be minutely adjusted to comply with building codes and the homeowners' evolving sensibilities. And everybody has to have lots of patience as the old materials and new house fit around each other.

Tim and Kathleen Steep bought their Victorian farmhouse with the aim of renovating it using as much salvage as they could. Tim, who runs his own firm, Tim's Carpentry and Remodeling Inc., considered it a course in advanced salvage techniques so that he could better serve his growing base of customers who want to use salvage.

The kitchen was already designed when the couple found a set of maple wall cabinets at Milwaukee's Salvage Heaven. Never painted, the 46-inch-tall cabinets perfectly matched base cabinets that the Steeps discovered in a neighbor's garage.

After completely changing the design around the bank of cabinets, Steep replaced the cabinets' wood fronts with glass and showcased them between two windows.

In a second-floor loft, he is making a balcony railing from an 11-foot stretch of Gothic-arched kneeling bench from a church.

"You have to have your plan, but when you find something old you like, you have to change the plan," he says.

Not everybody catches on. Jonathan and Beth Park bought a Victorian duplex in Milwaukee knowing that they'd have to gut it down to the studs and rebuild it.

At first, they hoped to save and reuse the trim from the 1892 Queen Anne. But when they learned the wood was covered in lead-based paint, they decided to replace it all with salvage.

Jonathan put the word out he was looking for miles of trim, and ended up buying the interior of one house and half of another. He ended up with 30 doors and 1,200 linear feet of molding - but it was all from an early Arts & Crafts style house built in 1904.

"It's distinctly different" in style and proportion from the doors he had to throw away, says Jonathan.

While his contractor grudgingly adjusted the plans to accommodate the shorter, wider doors, the Park crew meticulously extracted the doors, frames and hardware together, as pre-hung working units, so they could be easily slid into the new openings.

The contractor didn't get the memo. When it was time to move



KAREN SHERLOCK/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

MICHAEL MAY HAS SALVAGED items such as these French columns, Italianate corbel, and Arts and Craft bookcase for his home in Burlington, Wis.

the door units into place, "he had his guys break down the door jams and we had to fit them all together again. The guys took off all the door hardware and the bag of knobs was buried under a pile of wood. I eventually found them after I bought some more," says Jonathan.

Salvage dealers and specialty contractors say that this kind of thing happens all the time.

"By the time people get to me, they've heard 'no' from six or seven contractors," says May.

Many contractors, he says, "don't like to color outside the lines."

Non-standard parts add time and hassle to construction projects at every step, especially if they have to be fitted into contemporary plumb-

ing and electrical systems. Litchfield, author of "Piercing Taunton Press, third edition, \$39.95) a nuts-and-bolts book.

Intermediate piece fittings with new systems. "tricky to find," he says. "simple retrofits, the ones have to be trimmed or make them at home."

After all that work, he sometimes feel they may take some of that good with them if they sell it.

Usually, what's needed is sold with the house. A solution is a semipermanent standing installation. Hang old stained-glass from the frame instead.

See SALVAGE



KAREN SHERLOCK/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

A QUEEN ANNE DOOR with German etched glass is now part of May's home.



KAREN SHERLOCK/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

MICHAEL MAY KEPT THE ORIGINAL bathroom sink in his 1870 Federal style house.

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Better sleep big business — but are restless nights or ads fueling the need?

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Every body has to have it. And for many Americans, sleep seems to be a distant dream.

Research for deep, uninterrupted sleep has become a national obsession. It's driven by everything from the development of new prescription sleeping pills to extensive bed marketing in hotel chains.

In just 10 years, certified sleep studies in the United States have tripled — from 297 in 1995 to 897 this year, with more to come. Sleep medicine has become an approved specialty, and the number of sleep doctors is doubling in the process — to 3,000 today.

While there's no clear evidence that sleep disorders are growing, the numbers are high enough to support a robust sleep industry. An estimated 10 percent of American adults — 22 million — suffer from chronic insomnia and 5 percent from sleep apnea.

Population changes could push those numbers even higher. Apnea — the repeated cessation of breathing during sleep — is often related to obesity, and obesity figures are rising. Insomnia worsens with age and the onset of menopause, and hordes of baby boomers are entering the danger zone.

Don Delson, a 54-year-old investment banker, wryly observes that younger people sleep more

soundly because "in your 30s, you aren't mature enough to worry whether your kids will find the right mate; your bladder doesn't get you up."

His own fix for a sound sleep? For himself and his family, Delson has purchased four Duxiana beds (average price \$4,500 each). Swedish-made DUXs, which offer "advanced technology in sleeping" for up to \$9,000 a bed, are at the higher end of a growing super-bed industry promising Americans better trips to the land of nod.

Pills, though, are increasingly the sleep aid of choice.

Americans spent \$2.1 billion on the top prescription sleeping pills in 2004, according to the pharmaceutical information company IMS Health.

And a recent survey by the mail and retail prescription drug supplier Medco Health Solutions Inc. found remarkable increases in sleep drug use: Between 2000 and 2004, the number of adults using sleep medications doubled. In children ages 10 to 19, sleeping-pill use rose 85 percent.

The top sleeping-pill seller by far is Sanofi-Aventis' Ambien (\$1.8 billion in sales in 2004), but Sepracor's Lunesta, introduced earlier this year, hit second place with sales of \$112 million between January and July, said IMS. Nipping on Lunesta's heels are the new extended-release Ambien CR, and the new Rozerem, from Japan's Takeda Pharmaceuticals, which claims to avoid the dangers of dependence and abuse.

Next up, if approved by the FDA, may be Pfizer's Indiplon.

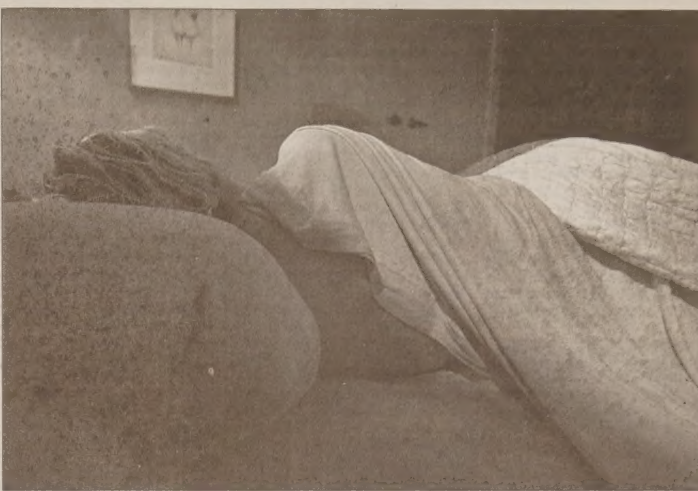
David Southwell, Sepracor's chief financial officer, isn't afraid of the competition. He sees potential for "growing the market" for sleeping pills since, by his estimate, only 10 percent of the millions suffering from insomnia seek pharmaceutical treatment. To help grow that

market, Sepracor has dispatched a small army of 1,250 Lunesta sales reps, mainly to primary-care doctors' offices.

But while the newer sleeping pills are considered safer and less addictive than older sleeping aids such as Valium and Halcion, doctors and sleep experts worry that hyper marketing may encourage overuse.

Most sleeping pills are labeled for short-term use of a week or so, and even longer-use Lunesta has been tracked in studies for just six months.

But many sleepless Americans take the drugs for longer and then suffer "rebound insomnia" when



A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP appears to be something a growing number of Americans no longer take for granted as shown in this photo illustration taken Oct. 20, 2005. The number of certified sleep clinics in the nation has nearly tripled in the last decade.

they try to quit, says Allan Pack, head of the expanding sleep clinic network of the University of Pennsylvania Health System. "It can be quite severe — it can be a long time before your own sleep system kicks in again."

Other experts note that sleep disorders are complicated. Do you feel sleepy during the day because you have insomnia? Or because undetected bouts of apnea wake you up all night? Could your sleeping problem be caused by obesity, depression, heart disease or other problems, which require their own treatments before you get relief?

The intense national focus on sleep is welcomed by advocacy

groups such as Philadelphia-based Awake in America, which works for greater public awareness of sleep apnea and other disorders. But there's a suspicion that sleeping-pill marketing is what is really driving the sleep obsession trend.

The marketing is at least starting a discussion, says Awake in America cofounder and apnea sufferer Dave Jackson. "But a lot of the doctors are listening to the pharma reps wanting to push drugs for insomnia; they're getting their information about sleep disorders from the reps."

Before you pop a sleeping pill, say the experts, get a proper diagnosis.

Keep these basic guidelines in mind when you design or redesign a kitchen

BY NICK HARDER
ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER
Anyone who has ever built or renovated a home knows that the kitchen is the heart of the house. Along with plumbing and electrical systems, there are cabinets, countertops and appliances.

The kitchen has also become the place where the family comes together, and the entertainment center, where party-goers always go to group.

Any wonder, then, that so much focus in home design is on the kitchen? Do it right and it makes the home function and flow, and you have a recipe for disaster, an unwelcome, unusable tangle, a wasted space wastes your time every day.

Help you and professionals right there are "rules" — guidelines — to designing a kitchen.

The triangle

Kitchen designers start with the basic "work triangle," also known as the "golden triangle." A kitchen, imagine a triangle with three points representing the refrigerator, the stove and the sink. In this efficient kitchen arrangement you only have to pivot from one of the triangle to another to get to the next necessary movement preparing meals.

How big is this triangle? Get the total length of the triangle — the combined distance between its three points — and be 12 to 26 feet. These are the guidelines that can vary quite a bit depending on the designer you're going to, the size of the house and the kitchen is being de-

signed, and other factors.

This rough rule leaves a lot of leeway. Basic kitchen designs allow a broad range of configurations, such as a U shape or the compact galley kitchen (see illustration). Which shape is best for your needs?

Rule 2: Heed needs

Triangle theories are good on paper, but how do real-world designers begin their kitchen planning?

Barbara McLane of By Design Kitchens Etc. said she first talks — and listens to — her client.

"The triangle is a logical start to design," she said.

But other factors also have to be considered. Among those factors is the client's lifestyle and particular needs.

"The whole family often wants to be in the kitchen," McLane said. "Many times its members are involved in cooking or preparing meals. It's a social activity."

So care in design should be given to allow sufficient space for a variety of family members, she said.

"Kitchens are also very much for entertaining," McLane said. "People are staying home much more and entertain their friends more."

When McLane designed the kitchen for this year's Philharmonic House of Design, she took into account the family's desire to entertain, and also the client's interest in doing some serious cooking.

She configured the kitchen in a long galley shape, with an island dividing the space. And she installed two of everything — two SubZero refrigerators, two heavy-duty dishwashers — a state-of-the-

art setup.

"I used two sinks on the island so two people could engage in preparation," said McLane.

Rule 3: Be practical

Kathleen Tish, who is a certified kitchen designer with her own firm in Foothill Ranch, said she believes in the traditional triangle of kitchen design though she works hard at communicating with her client about how a kitchen will be used.

"Most important is that a kitchen should be functional," Tish said. "In using the work triangle, I try to create work space on either side of the cooking surface and sink."

Tish also has her own rules on making sure there is enough elbow room.

"I make sure there are sufficient aisles around the kitchen, areas where people walk that are a minimum of 36 inches," she said. "I try for 48 inches, but that's not always possible."

Rule 4: New triangles

"A lot more homes are being designed with kitchens and dining areas in one big room," said Sandra Rodriguez, a certified kitchen designer with L&S Interiors of Anaheim. "Partly because of this, I view many kitchens I design as having more than one triangle."

One of those triangles involves what Rodriguez calls the "cleaning area," a place where people can do dishes and empty the dishwasher, without interfering with the cooking areas.

"I call another triangle the cooking area," she said. "A lot of times my kitchens also are split



THE THEME OF THE KITCHEN, designed by Barbara McLane of Philharmonic House of Design, is duality. There are two of every major appliance and two sinks.

into a main food preparation area and a helpers' area.

A helpers' area? This is a place where those pitching in with preparation can help by tossing a salad or preparing dessert.

All three designers said the most important rule was to understand the needs of those who will use the kitchen.

"I sit down with a client and try to understand the family, what their schedules are like, do they have outside cooking help, do the children help with food preparation?" This kind of discussion —

which every designer has — has turned up a significant lifestyle trend that greatly influences kitchen design today.

"There are simply more people using the kitchen than ever before," Rodriguez said. "You have more of the family in the kitchen at the same time. Everyone is helping to prepare a meal, getting their own meal, kids are doing homework, everyone is socializing."

This participation in the kitchen has increased "tremendously" in the past five years or so, said Rodriguez, and has greatly affected kitchen design.

"We have to design a kitchen to be more more usable by different people and for more people to use it," Rodriguez said.

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Martha Stewart's latest among the lines debuting at High Point furniture market

BY ALLEN NORWOOD
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

HIGH POINT, N.C. — Martha's back, but there's something different about her.

Martha Stewart's new furniture introductions in partnership with Bernhardt are strikingly different from her first collections. The scale is the same — Stewart's furniture is sized for real homes, not McMansions — but her signature blues and greens are less prominent.

Many of her previous designs have been based on collectibles in her own homes in the Northeast, including traditional English antiques. Not those introduced last week at

the twice-a-year International Home Furnishings Market. These 90-plus pieces are sleek, modern. Many are angular with softly rounded corners in a style that blends retro with Hollywood glamour.

"Up to this market, Martha has been East Coast," said spokesperson Stephanie Lowder. "Here's Martha going West Coast."

The name of the collection is Opal Point, and many of the pieces sparkle or sport hardware that's like jewels. There's a small octagonal occasional table that's fully mirrored; door pulls dangle and gleam like red-carpet earrings. "Anything that glows or

catches light," Lowder said.

But pieces are functional, too. A china cabinet features doors that slide open easily at a touch. Stewart understands that busy cooks will be reaching for plates with one hand while the other is occupied with something else, Lowder said.

The new collection is due at retailers in two months, instead of the more traditional five or six months after the wholesale market.

Other notable introductions at the market included the Nicole Miller Collection, created by the New York fashion designer for Excelsior Designs.

The casegoods, or wooden

pieces, are crafted in Italy in the angular European modern style. Fabrics, as you might imagine from someone who has dressed Halle Berry and Angelina Jolie, are striking and sumptuous.

North Carolina native Alexander Julian, one of the first fashion designers to discover success in High Point, presented new collections — at three distinct price ranges — for Manchester Furniture.

Flexsteel introduced new additions for Wrangler Home, also a familiar North Carolina name. (Some colors are named for N.C. towns. One is Iron Station black. A show-room guide was surprised to learn

that, yes, there really is an Iron Station.) There's a new Blitmore Estate collection from Magnussen Home, licensed by the landmark Asheville estate.

"There isn't a focus on a particular style or period," said Tim Rosebrock, director of business development for Blitmore. "This just reflects broadly what you might see in the house."

The metal legs of a striking table, for instance, resemble the ornate railing in the estate's library. The scrolled legs of another table were inspired by curves of a fireplace screen. The first Otis elevator in a private home, Rosebrock

said, influenced the

wine cabinet. If you've visited Blitmore, you might recognize some of the small dressing tables and updated for modern times. The primary wood tones are honey on burl and maple. Each piece comes with a booklet explaining its history to the estate.

"When a guest comes to the day with us, she doesn't really want to live like a Rosebrock said. "But she share a piece of that



MARTHA STEWART'S NEW furniture collection for Bernhardt Furniture. Pictured left to right: A fernwood chest, a larkspur bar cabinet and a rosemont curved bed.

Salvage

FROM PAGE 2

them in the frame, or position pillars as accents instead of structural elements.

The showcase in May's dining room is an oak Arts & Crafts buffet with leaded-glass doors accented with medieval crests.

It was the sturdy sideboard used by four generations of the same Burlington family before the house it was in was torn down to make way for a parking lot.

May happened to be working on the dining room of his house at the time, and the buffet served up some serendipity: It fit. He replaced its all-

angles Mission cap molding with a crown molding for a gentler transition to the original Greek Revival details of the rest of the room.

It was once built in, and looks like it is again, but it's not. It rests in a niche he built for it.

"If I found a true match for the house, something that was more period, more accurate, I'd exchange it," he says.

The price of history

It costs to use salvage — in time, money or both.

Prying woodwork and built-ins from old buildings is time-consuming and crews have to extract nails, staples, wiring and plumbing. But salvage rights to a house interior can go for as little as \$1,500.

Salvaged pieces that need refinishing can cost as little as \$100, but restoring them takes a lot of elbow grease and special supplies.

Ready-to-install pieces are priced according to their condition, size, rarity and provenance.

A plain pine fireplace mantel that is stripped but not finished might be priced at \$500. Refinished Arts & Crafts mantels are generally tagged from \$1,800 to \$2,500. At the other end of the spectrum is the carved 18th-century French limestone mantel that Salvage One in Chicago has had in stock for a year. It's priced at \$22,000.

Hot stuff

Some kinds of salvage are in vogue, while other styles are falling

from favor. Here's what hot and not in old house parts.

- Hot:**
- Anything Arts & Crafts
 - Fireplace mantels
 - Columns
 - Mid-century light and plumbing fixtures
 - Terra cotta friezes
 - Victorian gingerbread
 - Terra cotta tile
 - Built-in bookcases
- Not:**
- Stained-glass and leaded-glass windows and insets
 - Door knobs, plates and other hardware
 - Light fixtures

Sourcing salvage

The salvage marketplace is as fragmented as the houses it sells.

Ten years ago, it was easier to find things when there were only a handful of salvage stores around the country. Everybody who wanted to buy or sell salvage turned to these regional clearinghouses, says Steph Hruskoc, the general manager of Salvage One, a Chicago salvage warehouse that has been operating for nearly 25 years.

Now, there are dozens of salvage stores around the country. Antique stores sell salvage, and people auction it and sell it online.

Here are some strategies for assembling a stock of house parts:

Develop a network. Get to know salvage dealers, contractors and store owners and other old-house

enthusiasts. They'll keep

for specific things you find. Do the same for the Create a wish list with measurements. Distribute network.

Search online. Using "architectural salvage" specific names of things looking for: corbel, urn, mantel.

Be prepared to store months or years until amassed enough inventory to the project.

Consider reproducing quality reproductions are original molds and kinds like light fixtures, and work with today's plumbing standards.

HOLIDAY TRAVEL PACKAGES

Fairway Home for the Holidays at CordeValle

Tired of entertaining at home during the holidays? Let Auberge Resorts' Lodge at CordeValle do all the work while you and your friends enjoy a luxurious vacation. CordeValle's "Fairway Home for the Holidays" includes accommodations for up to eight guests in a 3,100 square-foot, four-bedroom Fairway Home. Enjoy a catered turkey dinner en-suite, home decorations complete with monogrammed stockings, and a Christmas tree with lights. Santa will visit the private residence to hand out candy and gifts to the youngsters while the adults can enjoy a champagne toast. Included in the package is a \$1,000 retail credit at the Spa and pro shop, with free gift wrapping and shipping, and eight one-hour spa treatments and/or eight rounds of golf. There is even a special holiday turnout at night. This package is offered from Nov. 21 - Dec. 30 for \$5,500 per night. For reservations or more information, please contact 877-255-2626 or visit www.CordeValle.com.

Christmas & New Year's Stay and Play at The Inn at Spanish Bay

Pebble Beach offers savings on luxurious accommodations and access to world-famous golf courses throughout the winter holidays. The Stay and Play packages at Pebble Beach include two nights at The Inn at Spanish Bay, one round of golf at the famed Pebble Beach Golf Links and one round at either The Links at Spanish Bay or Spyglass Hill Golf Course. The romantic Inn at Spanish Bay is nestled within a grove of Monterey pines, just steps away from the Pacific Ocean shore-

line in Pebble Beach. Available Dec. 11, 2005 - Jan. 6, 2006. Rates are \$1,445 for a single golfer and \$1,985 for a double golfer package on Pebble Beach Golf Links and The Links at Spanish Bay and \$1,520 for a single golfer and \$2,135 for a double golfer package on Pebble Beach Golf Links and Spyglass Hill Golf Course. For reservations or more information, please visit www.pebblebeach.com.

Floating Ice Skating Rink Set In The Desert Puts A Freeze On Lake Las Vegas Resort

At first sight, visitors may think it's a mirage — an ice skating rink in the middle of the Nevada desert — but just in time for the holidays, Lake Las Vegas Resort brings visitors a winter wonderland that is typically found in colder parts of the country. From Nov. 20, 2005 through Feb. 14, 2006, Lake Las Vegas Resort is offering its guests the opportunity to glide across a floating ice-skating rink under the warmth of the desert sun. The Rockefeller Center-sized rink floats on the 320-acre Lake Las Vegas, near the shores of MonteLago Village.

Holiday Skate, Stay & Shop 'Til You Drop Package: Lake Las Vegas Resort's MonteLago Village is offering a Holiday Skate, Stay & Shop 'Til You Drop package that includes two-nights accommodations, ice skating and skate rentals for two and discounts at MonteLago Village shops, enabling guests to complete holiday shopping away from the crowded malls. The cost is \$164 per person. For reservations or more information, visit www.lakelasvegas.com.

Annual Holiday Sand Sculpture Dedication and

Tree Lighting Ceremony

The St. Regis Resort, Monarch Beach in Orange County's Dana Point has an outrageous nine-ton Sand Sculpture and Tree Lighting Ceremony during the holidays. This year's holiday sand sculpture will depict dolphins leaping out of a breaking ocean wave as Santa Claus and his "elf" (a seal) watch from nearby. After the sand sculpture dedication, the Grand Lawn will become a holiday haven as guests and neighbors relax to watch the majestic 30-foot Christmas come to life. As the sun sets along the Pacific coast, enjoy cookies, hot chocolate and warm cider while the spirit of the holiday season is brought to life. Children and adults will delight in the festive display of gingerbread houses and arts and craft activities. The event is complimentary. In addition, The St. Regis Resort, Monarch Beach will offer a number of culinary classes including: Thanksgiving Leftovers Cooking Class on Saturday Nov. 26; Gingerbread house building classes for children every Saturday and Sunday in December (until Dec. 18); Holiday Desserts cooking class on Thursday, Dec. 1; Preparing the Perfect Roast class on Friday, Dec. 9; Dom Perignon Wine Dinner on Friday, Dec. 16. For reservations or more information, visit www.stregis.com.

Festival of Lights at the Mission Inn

Every year the Mission Inn in Riverside, California, celebrates the holidays with the Festival of Lights. From the Friday after Thanksgiving through the New Year, more than 2 million bulbs light up the hotel. The event draws more than 35,000 spectators to the hotel. The event also includes musical and dance acts and more than 250 animated characters.

Festival of Lights Package: Begin your holiday festivities with overnight accommodations in a historic room. Warm up the holidays in a Mission Inn fleece robe and commemorate your visit with a beautiful cherry stained photo album. A \$25 gift card is included in this package. Starting at \$295 per night.

Festival of Lights Spa Package: The package will include all of the festive offerings from the Festival of Lights Package, enhanced by the opportunity to enjoy either of two stress-free holiday treatments at Kelly's Spa. Choose either the 25 minute Herbal Spice Body Polish or a 25 minute Cinnamon Facial. Starting at \$375 per night. For reservations or more information, visit www.missioninn.com.

Kick 'Em Off The Couch at Omni Hotels

The Omni Hotels of California recognize that family bonding is best when done in small doses so they created a special "Kick 'em off the Couch" package for out-of-town relatives visiting for the holidays. This offer features a stress-free, one-night

package available at any one of the three Omni Hotels in San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Guests who book a one-night stay this holiday season will receive a special rate that includes complimentary parking and breakfast for two each morning. In addition, guests who book the package will receive complimentary holiday gift-wrapping and even a homemade green bean casserole to bring to the family holiday dinner! Omni San Diego rates begin at \$129 per room, per night; the Omni Los Angeles rate begins at \$119 per room, per night; and the Omni San Francisco rate begins at \$229 per room, per night. The packages are available from Nov. 24, 2005 through Jan. 8, 2006 based on double occupancy, subject to change and availability, and exclude taxes. For holiday reservations at any of the Omni Hotels of California, please call 800-THE-OMNI or access the company's Web site at www.omnihotels.com.

Home for the Holidays

Tired of entertaining at home during the holidays? Let Sanctuary in Camelback Mountain, Arizona do all the work and have the family "Home for the Holidays" in one of the private homes. This four-night/five-day

package starts at \$7,800 available from Dec. 11, 2005 through Dec. 11, 2006. Rates for New Year's Eve are available upon request. This package includes transportation, complete with grammy stocked, as well as other holiday traditions as a pitcher of eggnog. Additional arrangements made so guests may enjoy festivities:

- Delicious holiday catered to the private home
- Beaux MacMillan, with vintage adobe Valley and beyond
- Santa himself will arrive and gifts to good boys and girls
- Assistance with arrangement of presents and the gifts under the decorated

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Secretly simple holiday dining

WITH THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE holidays, it can feel like days, even weeks, go by without sitting down to dinner with your family. Entice them back to the table this holiday season with a meal that is elegant enough to serve to company, but simple enough to prepare for the family on a busy weeknight.

These delicious recipes look like you've been in the kitchen for hours, but don't worry, we won't tell your secret.

Everyone loves appetizers that are party food — these savory hors d'oeuvres are perfect to pass around as the meal is cooking. Or, for those really chilly nights, serve warm roasted garlic potato soup. Your family will surely ooh and ah when you present them with the main course of sizzling hot filet mignons, topped with wine sauce and served with green beans and the festive mashed potatoes — but the kids with a moist chocolate cake. With all of these quick and easy recipes, you might actually be able to remind everyone to save room for dessert.

LET MIGNON WITH CABERNET POTATO BUTTER SAUCE

6 (7-ounce) Omaha Steaks Filet Mignons, grilled
Sauce:
 2 teaspoons plus 1 pound unsalted butter, divided
 1/4 cup finely minced shallots
 3 cups Cabernet Sauvignon (about one 750ml bottle)
 1/2 cup dry Idahoan Buttery Homestyle Mashed Potatoes
 1 teaspoon kosher salt
 1. In small stainless steel saucepan, place 2 teaspoons butter and shallots. Sauté briefly, until shallots are transparent.
 2. Add wine.
 3. Over high heat, reduce liquid by half (cooking about 10 minutes).
 4. Reduce heat to low and stir in dry mashed potatoes. Cook and stir 1 minute.
 5. Cut 1 pound butter into 1/2-ounce cubes.
 6. Over low heat, add butter cubes to sauce 1 at a time while continually whisking. If sauce gets too hot and starts to get thin or separate, add more butter cubes to cool it down. If sauce starts to cool down and get thick, let it heat up before adding another cube. Keep between 100 - 120 degrees.
 7. Season with salt.
 8. Serve immediately over grilled steaks or hold at 100 - 120 degrees

In double boiler. Complete the meal with Green Beans With Butter and Lemon (recipe below) plus prepared Idahoan mashed potatoes using remainder of the pouch for the sauce, with one additional pouch.

GREEN BEANS WITH BUTTER AND LEMON
 Pinch of baking soda
 1-1/2 pounds fresh green beans, ends snipped
 1/4 pound butter
 1/2 cup diced (3/8 inch) red pepper
 Juice and zest of 2 lemons
 1 teaspoon sea salt
 1. In boiling water with pinch of baking soda, cook green beans to desired doneness.
 2. Drain beans, then toss with butter, red pepper, lemon juice, lemon zest and sea salt. Serve immediately.
 Makes 6 servings.

POTATO CHOCOLATE CAKE
 1 cup margarine or shortening
 2 cups sugar
 4 eggs
 3 squares chocolate, melted
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 1 cup cold, prepared Idahoan



FAMILY FEATURES EDITORIAL SYNDICATE

FAMILY AND FRIENDS will think you worked for hours to prefer this delicious meal of Filet Mignon with Cabernet Potato Butter Sauce, Green Beans with Butter and Lemon, Four-Cheese Potato Stuffed Mushrooms and Roasted Garlic Potato Soup

Original Mashed Potatoes
 2 cups flour, sifted
 1 teaspoon baking soda

1 teaspoon salt
 3/4 cup buttermilk
 1 tub chocolate frosting

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
 2. Cream together margarine or shortening and sugar. Beat in eggs one at a time.
 3. Stir in melted chocolate and vanilla. Add mashed potatoes and mix well.
 4. Combine flour, baking soda and salt. Add this sifted, dry mix alternately to batter with buttermilk. Blend well with each addition.
 5. Grease and flour baking pans. Distribute batter evenly between three 9-inch layer pans. Bake 20 minutes.
 6. Frost with favorite chocolate frosting. Garnish as desired.
 Variation: For Chocolate Spice Cake, add 1 teaspoon each cinnamon and allspice to sifted dry mix. One cup raisins or nuts also may be added.
 Makes 12 servings.

FOUR CHEESE POTATO-STUFFED MUSHROOMS
 1 (4-ounce) pouch Idahoan Four Cheese Mashed Potatoes
 12 large or 18 medium mushrooms
 3 tablespoons butter, margarine or olive oil
 3 tablespoons chopped chives, divided
 3/4 teaspoon salt
 1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees.
 2. Prepare mashed potatoes as package directs.

See RECIPES, Page 6

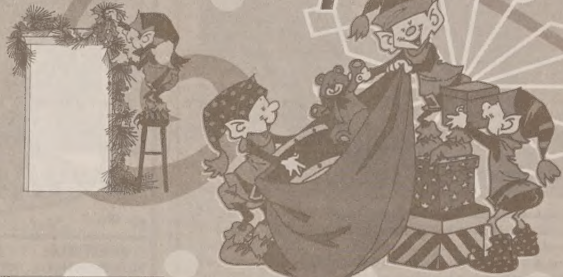
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Recipes

FROM PAGE 5

3. Remove stems from mushrooms; chop stems and set aside.

4. Carefully scoop out center of each mushroom cap with spoon, leaving 1/2-inch shell.

5. Melt butter in 10-inch skillet over medium heat. Add chopped mushroom stems and cook 3 minutes or until tender. Remove from heat and stir in mashed potatoes, 2 tablespoons chives and salt.

6. Fill each mushroom cap with potato mixture, mounding slightly. Bake 10 minutes or until potatoes are lightly golden. Sprinkle mushrooms with remaining 1 tablespoon chives.

Makes 12 appetizer servings.

ROASTED GARLIC POTATO SOUP

3 tablespoons butter or margarine
2 large leeks, sliced
2 (13 3/4-ounce) cans vegetable or chicken broth

1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper

1 (4-ounce) pouch Idahoan Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes, dry
1. Melt butter in 3-quart saucepan over medium heat. Add sliced leeks and cook 5 minutes or until tender, stirring occasionally.

2. Add broth and pepper. Heat to



POTATO CHOCOLATE CAKE makes a perfect ending to a perfect meal.

boiling. Stir in dry mashed potatoes until mixture has thickened. Make 6 servings.
For more recipes and usage suggestions visit www.idahoan.com and www.idahoan.com. All materials courtesy of Foods and Omaha Steaks.

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